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28 APRIL 1986

China Report

POLITICAL, SOCIOLOGICAL AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

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28 APRIL 1986

CHINA REPORT
POLITICAL, SOCIOLOGICAL AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

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UNITED STATES

GROUP FORECASTS PRC, USSR POPULATION GROWTH

OW101409 Beijing XINHUA in English 1011 GMT 10 Apr 86

[Text] Washington, 9 Apr (XINHUA)--World population is expected to reach 6.1 billion by the year 2000 and may exceed 10 billion by the end of the 21st century, more than double the current 4.9 billion, according to a report published today by a private research organization in the United States.

The study by the population reference bureau said that world population growth rate has passed its peak, declining from slightly more than 2 percent a year in the late 1960s to 1.7 percent now. An "ultimate stabilized world population" would be 10.2 billion and will be reached in the last decade of the 21st century, the report predicted.

The population growth is concentrated in the less developed countries which now account for 76.1 percent of the global population but the population of the more developed nations--presently 24 percent--could shrink to 14 percent by 2100, the report written by Thomas Merrick, bureau president, forecast.

By the year 2025, about 80 percent of the world's people will live in Africa, Asia and Latin America and only 17 percent in Europe, North America, the Soviet Union, Japan and the Pacific region, the report added.

China with a population of 1.05 billion, now the most populous nation in the world, will be surpassed by India in 2100, the study said. India's population of 785 million people today, is expected to grow to 1.63 billion in 2100 while China's population is anticipated to increase to 1.57 billion because the efforts of the Chinese Government to reduce its population are expected to achieve some success, the study said.

Nigeria will replace the Soviet Union as the third most populous nation in the year 2100, according to the report. By that date the population in Nigeria will increase from the current 105.4 million to 508.9 million, but the Soviet population will grow from 280 million to 375.9 million, the report said.

The United States, presently ranked fourth with 241 million people, is expected to be surpassed by Pakistan and Indonesia in 2100. The United States will drop to seventh place despite an increase to 308.7 million by that year.

SOVIET UNION

PRC-USSR BOUNDARY RIVERS NAVIGATION COMMISSION MEETS

SK220848 Harbin Heilongjiang Provincial Service in Mandarin 1000 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] The 28th regular meeting of the China-Soviet Joint Commission for Navigation on Boundary Rivers was held in Harbin City from 5 to 21 March. Both parties discussed, amid a friendly and cooperative atmosphere, issues regarding safe navigation on the China-Soviet boundary rivers, including the Heilong Jiang, Wusuli Jiang, and Ergun He, and reached agreements on most of the issues.

Comrade (Wang Yuanzhang), chairman of the China-Soviet Joint Commission for Navigation on Boundary Rivers of China and leader of the Chinese delegation, and Comrade (Amisuhuan), chairman of the China-Soviet Joint Commission for Navigation on Boundary Rivers of the Soviet Union and leader of the Soviet delegation, jointly signed the summary of minutes of the meeting.

Through consultations by both parties, the 29th regular meeting of the China-Soviet Joint Commission for Navigation on Boundary Rivers will be held in the Soviet Union, and the specific date for the meeting will be decided through further consultations.

During the meeting, Comrade Liu Zhongli, vice governor of the Heilongjiang Provincial Government, met with all members of the Soviet delegation. Comrade Wang Yaochen, president of the Heilongjiang branch of the China-USSR Friendship Association, held a reception in honor of the Soviet delegation.

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CSO: 4005/582

SOVIET UNION

USSR'S LOMEYKO DECLARES SUPPORT FOR LIBYA

OW252055 Beijing XINHUA in English 2015 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Moscow, 25 Mar (XINHUA)--The Soviet Union today "resolutely condemned" the U.S. for its military actions against Libya and declared that it would give necessary support to the northern African country.

Vladimir Lomeyko, head of the press department of the Soviet Foreign Ministry, stated at a press conference here that the military actions of the United States were aimed at "realizing its long-standing plans to destabilize and undermine the Libyan regime, which pursues an independent political course."

He said that the U.S. provocations "flagrantly violate the elementary norms of international law and are a manifestation of the policy of state terrorism."

He said that the Soviet Union "resolutely condemns" the U.S. military provocations and will give Libya as much political and moral support as it can.

Asked what concrete aid the Soviet Union will give to Libya, Lomeyko said only that the necessary aid will be given according to their bilateral agreements.

The United States and Libya exchanged fire on Monday in the Gulf of Sidra, an area claimed by the Libyan Government as its territorial waters.

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CSO: 4000/215

SOUTHEAST ASIA/PACIFIC

BRIEFS

VIETNAMESE, LAO LEADERS MEET—Hanoi, 18 Mar (XINHUA)--Vietnamese leader Nguyen Huu Tho and Lao leader Souphanouvong held talks in Vientiane yesterday on bilateral relations and international issues of mutual concern. No details of the talks were disclosed by the two sides. According to local press reports, during the meeting, Souphanouvong, president of the Lao People's Democratic Republic said that the two countries needed to strengthen their "outstanding friendship" and "cooperation in all aspects" in the face of the difficult and complex situation. Nguyen Huu Tho, chairman of the Vietnamese National Assembly who headed a delegation to visit here, claimed that the advancement of the "special relations" between the two countries was an important factor for peace and stability in the area. Hanoi said it was helping Vientiane in the fields of agriculture and light industry. It is reported that there are many Vietnamese experts and tens of thousands of Vietnamese troops in Laos. The Vietnamese National Assembly delegation arrived in Vientiane on 17 March for an official visit. [Text] [Beijing XINHUA in English 1235 GMT 18 Mar 86] /9604

CSO: 4000/220

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

REFORM OF ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURES LINKED TO FUNCTIONS

Beijing RENMIN RIBAO in Chinese 3 Jan 86 p 4

[Article by Tang Daiwang [0781 0108 2598]: "Reform of an Organizational Structure Should Start With a Determination of Its Functions"]

[Text] In the past we often regarded the reform of an organizational structure as only a streamlining of it, as if by cutting it down we would attain our purpose. The result was that when time passed and circumstances were different we slipped back into the old ways. The lesson of streamlining--expanding--re-streamlining--re-expanding made us realize that the reform of an organizational structure does not mean simply taking away, merging, and simplifying, but should start with a determination of the function of the organizational structure and then a readjustment, reform, and perfection of its administrative and management system.

The administration and management of organizational structures is an enormous, complex system. How many organizational structures this system should set up, what is the function of each organizational structure, and how many people are needed for each organizational structure should be determined based on the system's function as well as the task it is undertaking. What is called the function of organizational structures means the scope of the duties of their personnel, including the tasks that the organizational structures at all levels should undertake, their positions, and the roles they should play.

In our country's reform of organizational structures in 1981, with readjustment of the leading groups as its core, although we initially improved the age, education and ability, and speciality makeups of the leading groups and strengthened the work of functional departments in synthesis, supervision, politics and law, and education, because this reform did not proceed from a systematic viewpoint, did not study what functions our country's state organizational structures really have and what tasks they must complete, in order to determine as a whole what organizational structures the state should set up, what structures should be taken away, merged, or streamlined, as well as, based on the requirements of the tasks, what new organizational structures should be set up, the result was that what was taken away, merged, or simplified was not necessarily completely rational and scientific. In addition, this reform was not regularized by the legal system. Therefore, before long the number of organizational structures exceeded the quota, there

was unauthorized raising of the grades in organizational structures, there were more specialized organizational structures set up, there were more administrative companies, there were more personnel above authorized strength, there were more duties for the leading cadres, there were more concurrent posts and deputy posts, there was more mutual bickering, and there was more overspending of administrative funds. To basically eliminate these malpractices, we must first of all draw clear lines of demarcation for the functions of the various kinds of organizational structures in order to create the preconditions for rationally setting up organizational structures and personnel establishments.

Our country's carrying out of the reform of the economic system and its pursuit of the policy of opening to the outside world and enlivening the domestic economy have vigorously promoted the development of the commodity economy and have formed an multilevel economic structure. This state of affairs not only has rapidly expanded the functions of the government's organizational structures, but also has led to striking changes by shifting the focus of the economy. Today, in managing the economy the government must, in accordance with the internal relations of the economy and the principle of economic interests, switch from overly concentrated planned management to commodity economy management, switch from making administrative measures primary to making economic and legal measures primary, switch from making direct management primary to making indirect management primary, and switch from making micromanagement primary to making macromanagement primary. Also, the cadres' knowledge, speciality, and ability structures must be readjusted to meet the needs of the new economic system. Otherwise, it will be difficult for the government to display its functions of planning, guiding, coordinating, supervising, and serving.

Through determining the functions of the organizational structures and, in accordance with these functions, appointing work personnel, we will be able to strengthen the sense of responsibility and the dedication of work personnel, avoid cases of there being some things that everybody manages and some things that nobody manages, and achieve a situation in which people merge well things that should be merged, thereby achieving the goal of things being done in the best way and people being used to the best of their ability. This will both insure the soundness of the state mechanism and prevent unauthorized overestablishment; will both display the strong points and block incompetent people from being in place just to make up the number; and will both protect the cadres' legitimate rights and interests and spur them on to discharge their duties to the greatest extent possible, and prevent them from abusing their power and being derelict in their duty.

Marxists have always paid great attention to changes in the functions of organizational structures. Lenin said: The best organizational structure is the one that is "able to adapt itself to changing conditions" ("Complete Works of Lenin," vol 32, p 217), and "the responsibilities of every person who has a soviet post for carrying out a certain task and doing practical work must be clearly stipulated" ("Complete Works of Lenin," vol 25, p 329). As early as 1950, our country's government pointed out that the reform of organizational structures "must be closely combined with the improvement of leadership, improvement of work, reorganization of work systems, simplification of

administrative procedures, and the overcoming of the bureaucratic work style; and must be closely combined with making clear the scopes of professions, work duties, and work relationships (including the relationships between departments and between the central authorities and the localities." Our country's constitution points out that the State Council should "stipulate the tasks and duties of each ministry and each commission" and "stipulate the specific division of the limits of the functions and powers of the state administrative organizations of the central authorities and the provinces, administrative regions, and municipalities directly under the central government." It is thus obvious that the functions of organizational structures based on a determination of their work tasks, and their establishment in accordance with these functions, are a fundamental issue in the reform of organizational structures.

Determining the functions of organizational structures is an extremely complex systematic matter. Its policy nature is strong, it involves many people, and its range of effect is wide. A slight move in one part might affect the situation as a whole. It certainly must not be oversimplified. Based on our country's natural conditions and the principle of the separation of the duties of the party, the government, and the masses, under the guidance of the general policies and general goals of the party and the state, and on the basis of summing up historical experiences, we should make up a set of functions, which follow the laws of administration and management, that organically combine the work tasks, scope of duties, organization structure setups, and personnel deployment. Fixing the specifications, establishment number, and personnel standards of organizational structures, we should differentiate the functions of policy-making, managing, and implementing organizational structures; differentiate the party's leadership power over the state and its direct use with regard to the state's authority; and differentiate the state's ownership of enterprises and its direct power of administration. At the same time we must give consideration to the wholeness and interrelatedness of the state's organizational structures, draw up an overall plan, and make a complete set of reforms. With regard to each reform plan, we must carry out full scientific demonstrations, and clearly answer the questions of what basic departments the organizations of the central authorities and the localities should set up, what grades they should be divided into, what needs to be and what does not need to be geared to specific jobs, and what should belong to administrative, enterprise, or operating organizations. We must also stipulate the proportional structure of party, government, and mass organizational structures and their jobs; make clear the nature, duties, limits of authority, and management relationships of all units, as well as the tasks, responsibilities, labor intensity, personnel structure, and work environment of every work post, and the record of formal schooling, experience, capabilities, skills, moral character, and physical condition of the personnel needed, as well as their welfare treatment, so that everybody will have rules to follow, each person will attend to his own duties, and each person will have his own responsibilities.

The number of posts in any organization should be fixed in accordance with the principle of keeping the number to a minimum. The minimum number is to be decided by the factors in the entire administrative organization of its positions, duties, scope of its functions and powers, and budget outlay. The duties and tasks of all posts must be made clear, and there must be effective cooperation among them, in order to insure that the organization's goals and tasks are achieved and fulfilled. All organizational structures that are not concerned with these goals should be streamlined.

QIAO SHI 'TOP CONTENDER' FOR NEW VICE PREMIER POSITION

HK040814 Hong Kong AFP in English 0729 GMT 4 Apr 86

[Text] Beijing, 4 Apr (AFP)--The current session of China's National People's Congress (NPC) is to name a new vice premier and a state councilor, the NEW CHINA NEWS AGENCY (NCNA) reported Friday.

Candidates for the posts have been discussed at a Presidium meeting of the current NPC session and will later be approved by the full session, NCNA said without disclosing the names.

Informed sources said recently promoted party Politburo member Qiao Shi, 62, was a top contender for the new vice premier slot. China currently has four vice premiers, none of whom are expected to retire. Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian, who is due to retire from his current post, has also been tipped as a likely candidate.

A photograph of Mr Qiao appeared unexpectedly together with photos of two vice premiers, Li Peng and Tian Jiyun, in the current issue of the BEIJING REVIEW in a feature on the daily lives of China's leaders.

Analysts said the appointments were likely to be announced in the next few days.

The meeting also discussed a draft list of the candidates to fill vacancies in the NPC Standing Committee, including a new vice chairman, and candidates for additional vice chairmen and members of special committees of the NPC, the report said.

Posts in the NPC, which discusses and approves policies set by the Communist Party and adopts new laws, are largely symbolic and have relatively little impact on day-to-day Chinese politics, analysts said.

The Presidium also agreed upon drafts of resolutions for the full NPC concerning the 1986 plan and budget.

A draft resolution on approval of Premier Zhao Ziyang's report on the 1985-90 5-year plan was passed to Presidium members and is to be approved at the next Presidium meeting before being sent to the next full NPC session, the report said.

All resolutions and nominations are expected to be approved by the NPC before it adjourns on 12 April, analysts said.

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

BASIC-LEVEL PARTY ORGANIZATIONS IN RURAL AREAS EXAMINED

Beijing NONGMIN RIBAO in Chinese 4 Dec 85 p 1

[Article by staff commentator: "Usher in a New Situation in Work of Building Basic-Level Party Organizations in Rural Areas"]

[Text] Party consolidation of the basic-level party organizations in the rural areas is about to begin, and the building of basic-level party organizations in the rural areas must be closely combined with the consolidation of the party. No matter whether it is party consolidation in the rural areas or the regular building of party organizations, the purpose is to make the building of the party's basic-level organizations in the rural areas stronger and more vigorous, so that the broad masses of party members, during the building of socialist new rural areas, lead the masses to achieve common prosperity and truly play the role of advanced models, thereby promoting a further turn for the better in party style and social atmosphere, and guaranteeing that reform in the rural areas develops healthily in a deepgoing way.

The success of the reform in our country's rural areas is, first of all, because of the wisdom and correctness of the party's principles and policies in the rural areas, and also cannot be separated from the role played by the party's basic-level organizations and the party members in the rural areas. The majority of the party's basic-level organizations and the broad masses of party members in our country's rural areas are good or comparatively good. However, at present in the party's basic-level organizations and party members there are still many problems, and we must soberly understand this fact. One important reason for the appearance of problems is that, after the focus of the party's work was switched, even if the central authorities time and again reminded us that we must strengthen the party's basic-level organizations in the rural areas so that they become nuclei for the advance of the broad masses and fighting forces, some comrades do not understand this point. They do not pay sufficient attention to it, their study of the new situations and new problems encountered by the party's basic-level organizations in the rural areas is insufficient, their grip is not tight, and they do not exert themselves to solve problems. Some comrades think that "taking charge of a party branch is not as good as taking charge of a specialized household." They cannot correctly understand the relationship between building the economy and building the party, and they set the two in opposition or split them

apart. The result is that some basic-level organizations are paralyzed and nobody bothers about them. This state of affairs must be changed as fast as possible.

The party's basic-level organizations are the foundation of the party, are the bridges and links connecting the party with the masses. Of our party's 42 million members, 22 million are in the rural areas. Of our party's 2.57 million basic-level organizations, 1.13 million are in the rural areas. If we build well the party's basic-level organizations in the rural areas, we will be able to strengthen the party's leadership over the basic level in the rural areas, so that the party's line, principles and policies will be smoothly implemented in every hamlet, and we will be able to organize the party members in all the rural areas and to unite the 800 million peasants to build, with one heart and one mind, socialist modernization. If the party's basic-level organizations in the rural areas are built well, the reform in the rural areas is developed in a deepgoing way, and the economy in the rural areas becomes more prosperous, then we will be able to insure that the reform of the entire economic system, with the cities as the key points, is carried out smoothly. Therefore, the strengthening of the building of the party's basic-level under the new circumstances not only relates to the question of whether the new situation that has already appeared in the rural areas can continue to develop and whether the 800 million peasants can achieve universal prosperity, but also relates to the question of whether the entire reform can be successfully achieved. We must be determined, do solid work, and strive within 1 or 2 years to make a big change in the features of the party's basic-level organizations in the rural areas.

In building well the party's basic-level organizations in the rural areas, the county party committees bear a particularly important responsibility. While getting a tight grip on building the economy, the county party committees certainly must conscientiously put the work of the building the party's basic-level organizations in the rural areas into their own hands. When the leading comrades go down to lower levels to do inspection work, they "must look at the specialized households, and even more must be concerned about the party branches." They must also regularly give topics to organization departments and strengthen their specific guidance of these departments. Once they discover a party basic-level organization that is in a state of paralysis, they must timely dispatch people to help and reorganize it, and they must not let it alone and not care about it. They must also further strengthen the building of the organizations' work contingents, and get a good grip on matching up and coordinating cadres who do organization work in party committees at all levels, helping them to improve their work capabilities and professional level in order to meet as fast as possible the needs of work. Provided we summon up our spirits, exert ourselves to make progress, and handle more facts, we will certainly be able to usher in a new situation in the work of building the party's basic-level organizations in the rural areas.

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CSO: 4005/427

COMMENTATOR: PARTY SHOULD TEND TO OWN BUSINESS

Beijing NONGMIN RIBAO in Chinese 3 Dec 85 p 1

[Article by staff commentator: "The Party Certainly Must Run Itself"]

[Text] The party must run itself--this topic is not new; it has been brought up many times in the past. After the focus of work in the party was switched to the four modernizations program, in some party organizations in the rural areas, when plunging headlong into economic work and other administrative work, there appeared the phenomenon of the party not running itself, which made the party organizations unable to meet very well the new demands on them imposed by the constantly developing new situation. Therefore, today it is again necessary to discuss the question of the party running itself.

The party must run itself, that is, the party organizations must run the building of the party. This is fundamental.

Our party is the party in power, and in every aspect of the country's life, particularly in the four modernizations drive, it plays the leading role. This is a fact about which there is not the slightest doubt. However, just like the fact that for a person to do good work he must first rely on the wholeness of his own body and be sound in body and mind, today for our party to complete its own historical mission in a highly effective manner it must rely on the soundness of the party members and on the improvement in their quality. Therefore, the party running itself and the party organizations getting a good grip on party building are an important matter concerning the increasing of the party's fighting capacity.

When speaking about the party running itself, some comrades immediately think of the work of developing party members, as if "running the party" meant running this work. This view is very onesided. By and large, in the party organizations' running of party building there are two aspects: one is the party's organizational structure, and the other is the party's building of ideology. The party's organizational building of course includes the development of party members, but it is certainly not just a matter of developing party members. It is also a matter of strengthening the party organizations at all levels, as well as their systems in work and life, of implementing the party's principles of leadership and its principles of democratic centralism, of upholding party discipline, and so forth. The most

important thing in the party's building of ideology is to educate party members in Marxism-Leninism, Mao Zedong Thought, and communist ideals and morals; and to educate them in the party's nature, fundamental purpose, and discipline, as well as in the party's line, principles and policies. Also, in integration with reality, this education must be combined with the solving of the problem of unhealthy trends, in order to make the party organizations and the party members, when implementing the party's policy of developing an excellent situation in the rural areas, fully display their role as a leadership core, fighting force, and advanced model.

Here there is also a question of the relationship between running the building of the economy and running the building of the party. The party organization of a county, district, township, or village must, of course, run the economic construction in its own locality, and also certainly run it well, but there is a correct method of running it. What is this correct method? Running the party is concerned with the thorough implementation of the line, principle and policies for economic construction, and is not concerned with the specific work of running economic construction--this is a matter for the government and the economic management departments. The specific leadership of all work in economic construction is mainly to be done by party members through the work of the government and the economic management departments. The party organizations should put their main energy and the majority of their time on running the building of the party.

During party consolidation in the rural areas, the party organizations of counties, districts, townships, and villages should solve well the problem of the party running itself.

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CSO: 4005/427

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

QUESTION OF GIVING NONPARTY FIGURES REAL POWER EXAMINED

Editorial on Its Importance

Beijing RENMIN RIBAO in Chinese 10 Dec 85 p 5

[Editorial: "Sincerely Cooperate With Nonparty Personages"]

[Text] At the beginning of this year, several nonparty vice mayors and vice county heads of a certain province wrote a letter to leadership organizations, reporting that after they took up their leadership posts they could not get the proper ideological concern and they lacked the support necessary for their work, and thus they earnestly requested that they be allowed to resign. This incident reminds us that whether we sincerely cooperate with nonparty personages is an important question facing party organizations at all levels.

The party Central Committee has always attached importance to the role of nonparty progressive personages. In the anti-Japanese base of Yan'an. Comrade Mao Zedong many times commended the nonparty personage, Mr Li Dingming [2621 7844 6900]. During the period of building socialism, there are many excellent, talented persons among the nonparty masses. They are our country's precious wealth. By sincerely cooperating with nonparty comrades in working together with them, showing them utter devotion, and working together with them with one heart in times of difficulty, Communist Party members will insure that our country's important policy of a long and peaceful reign and of growth and development is carried out. Selecting nonparty personages who meet the conditions of the "four modernizations" for leadership work is of extremely important significance for developing a patriotic united front in the new period, strengthening the building of the people's regime, and promoting progress in reform and the four modernizations. The idea that making nonparty cadres leaders is "for the sake of graphs and putting up a front" is extremely harmful. The action of making nonparty cadres "serve as a foil" and become "furnishings and decorations" is even more mistaken.

To sincerely cooperate with nonparty personages, we must further overcome and eradicate the ideological influence of the "left" and the work style of closed-doorism. Outstanding nonparty cadres generally possess the characteristic of having a lot of cultural knowledge and fairly wide social connections. This characteristic of theirs should be fully displayed, and it is worthy of study by comrades in our party. The Hongdong County CPC

Committee places full confidence in nonparty leading cadres. It boldly supports their work, letting them have posts, use their power, and make the most of their responsibilities. Thus, gratifying successes in work have been achieved.

Example of Hongdong County

Beijing RENMIN RIBAO in Chinese 10 Dec 85 p 5

[Article by Jin Hong [2516 3163]: "Boldly Making Use of Nonparty Cadres, Working in Full Cooperation With Unity of Purpose To Build the Four Modernizations"]

[Text] In the process of reforming its organizational structure and readjusting its leading group, the Hongdong County CPC Committee in Shandong Province conscientiously got rid of the ideological influence of the "left" and shook off the yoke of the old convention that if one was not a party member one could not be put in an important position. In accordance with the demands of cadre "four modernizations," it broadened its field of vision, opened all avenues for people of talent, conscientiously selected nonparty people with lofty ideals, and recommended that nonparty young and middle-aged intellectuals who have both ability and political integrity and who have made outstanding contributions be put in the leading group. As of now there are five nonparty cadres holding leading posts in the county-level leading group, constituting 30 percent of the administrative leading cadres at this level.

1. Boldly putting outstanding nonparty cadres in the leading group. In the spring of this year, the principal leading members of the county party committee went down to the basic level and conducted investigations and studies. They listened attentively to the views of the broad masses, who suggested that Comrade Dong Zhenwu [5516 2182 2976], a nonparty cadre and the director of the county's dairy products plant, be a candidate for the post of vice county head. Dong Zhenwu is in the prime of life. He understands technology, is a good manager, is a bold innovator, and is determined and enterprising. The output, output value, and profits of the dairy products plant have shot up under his leadership. When the news that Dong Zhenwu had been made a candidate for the post of vice county head was transmitted, it quickly evoked a strong echo in society. The great majority of people thought that Comrade Dong Zhenwu was equal to the job. There were also some persons who said: "He is not a party member, a fact which will not be convenient for his work." The county party committee did ideological work among figures on all sides, and at a people's congress held in March Comrade Dong Zhenwu was honored by being elected to the post of vice county head. At the same time, the county party committee recommended that nonparty cadres with a broad mass basis--Song Yupu [1345 3768 3877], deputy director of the communications bureau; Liu Yingwang [0491 5391 2489], director of a carbon plant; and Liu Zhuoqi [0491 09587 1142], engineer of a phosphate fertilizer plant--be made vice chairmen of the county's people's congress and CPPCC.

2. Boldly letting nonparty cadres hold real power, take on real responsibilities, make what they say count, and have both posts and power. Some people once surmised that making a nonparty cadre vice county head was

nothing but "furnishings and decorations." The county party committee held repeated discussions and unanimously concluded that all nonparty cadres who have been conscientiously selected should have the powers commensurate with their posts, and that the party committee must support them in doing their work well. At an administrative meeting held by the county head, when Dong Zhenwu was put in charge of financial and trade affairs, he was surprised. Feeling that his responsibility was heavy, he became determined to "go all out to be a model." Wang Wenxue [3769 2429 1331], secretary of the county party committee, sought out Comrade Dong Zhenwu and had a heart-to-heart talk with him, during which he encouraged him to take a free hand in his work. Comrade Dong Zhenwu quickly became proficient in the work he had been put in charge of.

3. Vigorously helping nonparty cadres to usher in a new situation. The county party committee understood that after nonparty cadres take up leadership posts, for many reasons, they always feel that they have fairly weak backing. To help them become proficient as fast as possible in the work they had been put in charge of, the county party committee at all times lets them read some important documents and attend some important meetings, in order to deepen their understanding of the party's principles and policies. The party committee does not take over the work that they had been put in charge of, and once they encounter difficulties it helps them to resolve the difficulties. Because of the county party committee's vigorous support, the enthusiasm of Dong Zhenwu and the other nonparty cadres was further aroused. Dong Zhenwu went down to the basic level, found the principal contradiction in finance and trade work, and got a tight grip on the three links of finance, taxes, industry and commerce. By July the county's financial situation had taken a distinct turn for the better. By the end of August, for the first time there was a surplus in the county's balance of payments. These newly appointed leading cadres have already fairly quickly adapted to the work at their new leadership posts, and have won favorable comment from the broad masses inside and outside the party. Many nonparty personages have said: With the Communist Party genuinely and sincerely cooperating and working with us, we certainly must show our utter devotion to it, share honor and dishonor, and jointly make contributions to the four modernizations program.

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CSO: 4005/428

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

CASES OF MALPRACTICES IN WUHAN CITY ANALYZED

Beijing RENMIN RIBAO in Chinese 10 Dec 85 p 5

[Article by Investigation and Research Office, Wuhan City CPC Discipline Inspection Commission in "Analysis and Reflection" column: "Analysis of 21 Cases"]

[Text] Since December of last year, the Wuhan City CPC Discipline Inspection Commission has investigated and handled 21 typical cases. In analyzing these cases, what experiences and lessons are worthy of people's assimilation?

They must uphold the management orientation of socialism and get rid of the idea of "looking for money in everything." Zhang Hanhong [1728 3352 1347], manager, and Jin Yixin [6855 0001 1800], assistant manager, of the Wuhan City Computer Joint Development Company, during their business activities of importing microcomputers, in order to get more money colluded with Hong Kong businessmen and with one or two cadres of Wuhan customs. Forging contracts and falsely reporting cargo specifications, they engaged in smuggling and tax evasion to the tune of 720,000 yuan. This was a typical example. What is noteworthy is that the party organizations of some units and a small number of leading cadres, in order to increase their economic income, when making use of people did not stress "revolutionization" but rather appointed people on the basis of "money." The result was that the dregs floated to the surface of society. The party and the state advocate and encourage enterprises and institutions, based on policies, laws and decrees, to increase their production and income and to increase the individual's income. However, people who "look for money in everything" put the policies, laws and decrees out of their minds, and they depart from the orientation of socialism and from the aim of serving the people wholeheartedly.

They must strengthen their belief in serving the people with one heart and one mind, and resolutely oppose the practice of using their power of office to seek private gain. In the previous period, during their reform of the self-paid wages system and the distribution of monetary awards, some factory and mine enterprises practiced "promotion by post and decision on awards by officials," so that every one of the masses of staff and workers went up one grade in wages and all leading cadres went up two grades. Under the circumstances in which their economic results were not good, some enterprises still granted post allowances. In the name of smashing the "one big pot," not

practicing equalitarianism, and opening the files, some handed out to leading cadres much higher monetary awards than they handed out to staff and workers. Taking advantage of the opportunity provided by the reform of the system, some units adopted the method of large companies illicitly helping small companies, and gave goods that were in great demand, which the large companies should have handled, to small companies to sell at forced-up prices, thereby undermining the state to enrich the collective. These examples raise a serious question for us: Under the circumstances in which the enterprises' right to act on their own is being expanded, is the power in the hands of the party's cadres being used to seek public good or private gain? Is it being used for the greater good or the smaller good? A party member cadre must exercise his power for the thorough implementation of the party's policies and principles, and play his own role in this. Abuse of power causes losses to the party's and the state's undertakings.

They must establish the concept of looking at the situation as a whole, and must correctly handle the relationship between the state, the collective, and the individual. From December of last year to January of this year, the amount of money and material objects recklessly issued by some units was enormous, and the material objects recklessly issued developed from being low grade to being high grade. The standpoint of most of the responsible persons in units that recklessly issue money and material objects is that of selfish departmentalism, and the slogan they shout is "seek the welfare of the staff and workers." Everybody approves of seeking the welfare of the staff and workers. However, this must depend on improvements in administering and managing one's own unit, and, on the basis of increasing income, gradually increase the welfare of the staff and workers. They certainly should not, disregarding the state's regulations, "seek the welfare" of the staff and workers by cutting the ground from beneath the state.

They must make discipline strict and impartial, and resolutely resist the "style of interceding for somebody." In the previous period, during the process in which the relevant departments were investigating big and important cases, the "style of interceding for somebody" was a big obstruction. According to an investigation, the sources of this style were, for the most part, certain leadership organizations and a small number of leading cadres. When the problem of their subordinate units' violations of law and discipline were revealed, the party organizations of some departments in charge, fearing to wash their dirty linen in public, did not stress principle, did not distinguish right from wrong, and tried to turn big problems into small problems and small problems into no problems at all. Some took a so-called "magnanimous attitude," and "shouldered the burdens" and "shared the worries" of the lower level. When dealing with those who seriously violated law and discipline, some leading cadres did not do it right. They didn't punish those who should have been punished, and they punished lightly those who should have been punished heavily. Thus they did not uphold the strictness of party discipline. When the sons and daughters of some cadres committed serious mistakes, the leading cadres concerned did not strictly educate their own sons and daughters, but went all around using their influence and went outside their own units to intercede for them. The essence of the "style of interceding for somebody" does not stress truth but rather "face," does not stress party spirit but rather human feelings. If this unhealthy tendency is

allowed to develop, it will be a case that "the bad example of losing strictness in one thing is followed by the losing of strictness in a hundred other things," and the results of our work to "correct unhealthy trends" will be that the loss is twice the gain.

They must vigorously overcome bureaucracy. Fifteen of these 21 typical cases were caused by the bureaucratic work style of the responsible comrades of certain party organizations. On some problems, the higher-level departments in charge had some clues, but they stopped action on the problems. When some persons made use of the reform and the lifting of restrictions to engage in dishonest practices, the higher-level departments turned a blind eye, and in reality gave them tacit consent and support. The management departments of a small number of units also formed some companies. What was the management orientation of these companies? What was the state of their cadres' thinking and organization? Very few of the principal leaders took an interest in them, and often after serious problems had occurred and they suddenly realized what was happening it was already too late. This was an effect caused by weakness and slackness in leadership work and of irresponsible bureaucracy. In the previous period, many "briefcase companies" appeared in society, and they did not have a strict and definite relationship with the management system. A small number of leading cadres, not caring whether these companies could raise capital by themselves and not caring whether they had the capacity to repay loans, at one stroke of their pens authorized loans to them amounting to several hundred thousand yuan. This gave the green light to "briefcase companies" to cut the ground from under socialism and to sabotage the four modernizations program. These facts clearly show that the new unhealthy trends are linked to the seriously bureaucratic work style in our party, and that we need to make a lot of effort to correct it.

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NATIONAL AFFAIRS

TOP UNIVERSITIES TO ENROLL OVERSEAS STUDENTS

OW310948 Beijing XINHUA in English 0937 GMT 31 Mar 86

[Text] Beijing, 31 Mar (XINHUA)—Young Chinese students living in Taiwan, Hong Kong, Macao and abroad are again being invited to apply for places at seven leading mainland universities, it was announced today.

This will be the second year the universities have enrolled Chinese students from other countries and regions, an official at their united office here said.

However, for the first time this year, the Hong Kong examination authority will be empowered to handle registration of local students and supervise entrance examinations.

Other registration offices are in Guangzhou, Zhuhai in Guangdong Province, Xiamen in Fujian Province and Dandong in Liaoning Province. Registration will take place between April 15 and 30, and entrance examinations will be held from June 21 to 23.

Candidates must be under 29, unmarried, physically healthy and have a high school education, but the official refused to disclose how many places were available.

Once the students are enrolled, their tuition fees are waived and they can apply for financial aid. Outstanding students will be awarded scholarships. They will be allowed to visit their families during holidays, and to choose whether to remain on the mainland or return to their homes after their studies.

The seven universities are Beijing University, Qinghua University in Beijing, Fudan University in Shanghai, Zhongshan University, Zhongshan Medical College and South China Engineering College in Guangzhou and Xiamen University.

The official added that Chinese students from other countries and regions could also apply to other mainland universities and colleges.

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CSO: 4000/217

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

PAPER REPORTS ON COLLEGE-LEVEL EXAM SYSTEM FOR SELF-TAUGHT

HK040747 Beijing CHINA DAILY in English 4 Apr 86 p 1

[Article by staff reporter Nie Lisheng]

[Text] Xian--A system of college level exams for the self-taught has been developed for students all over the country, a national conference was told here.

Since 1980 when the system was first tried in Beijing, 11,412 self-taught students around the country have received college diplomas in 15 subjects including Chinese language, English, law, philosophy, mathematics, economics, accounting and finance.

In a speech on college equivalency exams, Vice-Minister Zou Shiyan of the State Education Commission said the state was now drafting regulations to ensure that exams held nationwide would be able to verify the qualifications of self-taught students.

Now the National Commission Guiding College Equivalency Exams for the self-taught has worked out exam schemes for 35 subjects, teaching materials for 33 subjects and review outlines for 138 subjects.

At present all the exams are held locally by branches of the commission, usually twice a year. Last year, exams on 227 subjects were offered at each sitting. Each exam session attracted nearly 1 million applicants.

According to Vice-Minister Zou, the college equivalency study programs for the self-taught have not only enabled people who do not have the chance to go to college to acquire higher education by themselves, but have also provided a cheap and effective means to raise the vocational education of China's workforce.

Last year, for instance, more than 300,000 clerks dealing with statistics studied independently and then took part in a nationwide college level exam in statistics. Their efforts have greatly improved the professional competence of China's statisticians in coping with the country's increased economic activities, Zou said.

Unlike full-time college exams, the equivalency test system makes no restrictions on applicants' age, profession, schooling or health. The student has to pay a fee to take an exam and receives a certificate for each subject passed. Once a student acquires the required number of subject certificates, ranging usually from 10 to 15, he or she will be granted a college diploma, entitling him or her to the same kinds of jobs and pay as graduates of regular two-year colleges.

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CSO: 4000/215

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

OFFICIAL VIEWS SENTENCING OF TAIWAN YOUTHS

OW060138 Beijing XINHUA Domestic Service in Chinese 1500 GMT 5 Apr 86

[Text] Beijing, 5 Apr (XINHUA)--The course of action taken by the Taiwan authorities is against the will of the people. This was a comment by a responsible person of the All-China Federation of Taiwan Compatriots to XINHUA reporters today concerning the sentencing of Taiwan youths Chen Zhisen and Han Jinghui to 3 years' imprisonment by the military tribunal of the "Taiwan garrison headquarters" on "fabricated charges." The two Taiwan youths attended a summer camp for Taiwan compatriots in Xiamen last year.

The responsible person of the federation said: The All-China Federation of Taiwan Compatriots is only a mass organization of Taiwan compatriots residing on the mainland. Its purpose is to promote kinship and mutual understanding between Taiwan compatriots. Since 1984, the federation has sponsored two Taiwan youth summer camps which were warmly welcomed by compatriots at home and abroad. Taiwan compatriots Chen and Han should not be reproached because they came here to attend a summer camp--a people-to-people activity. Apprehensive of public opinion, the Taiwan authorities fabricated the so-called "attempted crime of supplying materials to traitors" and had the innocent Chen and Han court-martialled. The "crimes" listed in the court documents were groundless.

The responsible person pointed out: Compatriots on both sides of the Taiwan Straits ardently wish to visit their relatives and friends, engage in entrepot trade, and take part in people-to-people exchanges. This is an irresistible general trend favored by the people. Running counter to the will of the people, however, the Taiwan authorities stubbornly court-martialled Chen Zhisen and Han Jinghui on the eve of the convocation of the Third Plenary Session of the KMT Central Committee, in an attempt to intimidate compatriots on both sides of the strait. All members of the federation are strongly indignant at the persecution of the two Taiwan compatriots.

The responsible person of the federation urged the Taiwan authorities not to take such a course of action against the will of the people in the future, and immediately release Chen Zhisen and Han Jinghui, who are innocent.

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CSO: 4005/588

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

BRIEFS

AID TO TAIWANESE FISHERMEN--Hangzhou, 8 Apr (XINHUA)--Chinese coastal aid centers provided medical aid and ship repairs to more than 12,500 Taiwanese fishermen in 1,400 ships last year, a Zhejiang provincial official said today. The province has opened five aid centers since 1979 for Taiwanese who fish its waters, the official said, and construction of three more is underway. According to the officials, the aid centers also help Taiwanese who want to locate or meet relatives on the mainland. [Text] [Beijing XINHUA in English 1030 GMT 8 Apr 86] /9604

SUN YAT-SEN BIRTH ANNIVERSARY--Beijing, 8 Apr (XINHUA)--A 10,000-strong rally is scheduled in the Chinese capital to mark the 120th anniversary of Dr Sun Yat-sen's birth on 12 November this year, it was decided here today. This is part of a great variety of activities planned to honor the memory of this revolutionary forerunner who led the revolution of 1911. Other items include an exhibition, an international seminar, the publication of "Complete Works of Sun Yat-sen," a pictorial and a collection of Sun Yat-sen's letters, the issuance of commemorative stamps, gold coins and portraits, the shooting of a documentary and a feature film, and the unveiling of Dr Sun's statue in Beijing. Similar activities will be held in other parts of the country, such as Shanghai, Nanjing, Guangzhou and Wuhan. Preparations for these activities will be made by the general offices of the Chinese Communist Party Central Committee, the National People's Congress Standing Committee, the State Council and the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference. [Text] [Beijing XINHUA in English 0242 GMT 8 Apr 86] /9604

KMT, SOVIET WAR DEAD--Nanjing, 5 Apr (XINHUA)--More than 100 officials and citizens in this capital of Jiangsu Province paid their respects today at a cemetery for air force martyrs of the Kuomintang and Soviet Union who died in the war of resistance against Japan (1937-1945). Zhang Shucheng, deputy secretary general of the Nanjing city government officiated at the ceremony. Wreaths were presented by representatives from government offices, local committees of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, and Communist Party United Front work departments and organizations in Jiangsu and Beijing. Located outside the city's Taiping gate, the cemetery contains 160 tombs of KMT and Soviet war dead. [Text] [Beijing XINHUA in English 1519 GMT 5 Apr 86 OW] /9738

CSO: 4000/215

CENTRAL-SOUTH REGION

WORKSTYLE OF GOOD COUNTY SECRETARIES DISCUSSED

Changsha XUEXIDAOBAO in Chinese No 25, Jan 86 pp 14-15

[Article by Liu Yangchun [[0491 7122 2504]: "Discussion on What it Takes to be a Good County CPC Secretary"]

[Text] There is a common saying, "If the county CPC secretary is good, he will be as strong as a roof beam. If he makes a mistake, he will lead us down the wrong road." How then can one be a good county CPC secretary? Work hard in many ways, most importantly by grasping the overall situation and zeroing in on the major issues.

1. A newly appointed county CPC secretary must liberate himself from the state of "working in a hasty and disorderly manner" and come to grips with the work of a county CPC secretary in the new era.

I became a deputy county secretary in 1959 and was a county secretary for a number of years after that. The conditions then were very different from now, but I too went through a hectic and chaotic period in which I was busy "from the moment I opened my eyes in the morning to the second I turned off the light at night." Every day left me exhausted but I still failed to get on top of my job. The basic reason was that I did not understand the importance of taking charge of the overall situation and setting priorities.

To solve this problem, we must begin by understanding clearly the characteristics of the county CPC secretary's work in the new era.

The focus of his work has now shifted to the four modernizations. In other words, while the key link in the past was class struggle, today it is economic construction. The old preoccupation with agriculture must now be replaced by new attention to integrated management. In the 1950's, the county CPC secretary mainly concerned himself with conscription and the collection of grain and, in the 60's, with agricultural production. Times have changed: agriculture now requires a positive ecological system, industry requires an open production and marketing system, and the development of such subsystems as science, education and culture must be adapted to the larger system embracing the entire county's economic and social development. We are faced with a rather complex piece of systems engineering. The principles of integrated management have entered the work of county leadership.

Working procedures must be scientific, that is, there should be a shift from policy-making based on experience to scientific policy-making. In the past, we primarily relied on a leader's own experience and wisdom to see a project through from beginning to end. Nowadays a major policy decision requires inputs from a variety of scientific processes, such as forecasting, feasibility analysis, effectiveness theories and reliability analysis, and goes through a series of scientific procedures, from problem identification, goal-setting and value selection through plan formulation and analytical evaluation to plan selection, testing and general application. Sometimes it may even need modern technical know-how for its execution.

To provide leadership for modern construction is indeed a complex, demanding and difficult job. To master the overall situation and set priorities is exactly the new leadership approach suited to the new situation. The new situation requires us to take charge of the overall situation and think in terms of the whole, on the one hand, and concentrate on large problems and have a sense of priorities, on the other. It pushes leadership methods on to a higher plane.

2. A county CPC secretary must think strategically and be adept at grasping key, basic tasks.

In terms of space, a county CPC secretary with a strategic, comprehensive vision takes into consideration every sector in the county from every perspective, which is nevertheless more than the sum of the different parts. A mature secretary must have in mind the situation as a whole. He cannot but consider, for instance, the relations between the construction of the material civilization and that of the spiritual civilization, between economic work and ideological and political work, and between party committee work and government work. Nor is it possible for him not to consider county-wide strategies for economic development, population development, enterprise development, social development, technical development, information development, qualified personnel development, and so on.

In terms of time, a county CPC secretary who thinks strategically must take into consideration the county's entire development process, including the different developmental stages. A good secretary must learn from the past and anticipate possible future consequences. Every move must be carefully thought through. He must not only judge today's achievements against yesterday's struggle, but also evaluate today's practice by tomorrow's needs.

Things that affect the overall situation or have strategic importance are not visible to the eye. Only by carefully sieving through the large amount of perceptual data gathered through research can we identify them. For instance, a county's economic development strategy must be based on the various kinds of information provided by the information network and should be finalized only after repeated comparisons.

Moreover, a county CPC secretary must be a master when it comes to tackling key, basic work with a partial significance. What kind of work qualifies as such? It depends on the specific circumstances. As far as our present work

is concerned, some people suggest that our key, basic work is to develop qualified personnel. It is true that qualified personnel are most important; to do an outstanding job, we need outstanding people. In my opinion, however, even more important than people are structures and systems. Let us say a highly qualified person is like a high-speed car. Then structures and systems are comparable to wide, straight and smooth roads. Without such a road, even the fastest of cars cannot do much. Therefore, our basic and key work right now is reform.

3. To take charge of the overall situation and tackle the major issues, a county CPC secretary must spend time and effort on "management, policy-making and coordination."

A. Management is the secretary's basic responsibility. (1) Management by objective. Essentially speaking, management as a process means setting a goal in an organization and then carrying it out. (2) Planned management. To make sure people work efficiently, a job-related responsibility system must be instituted throughout the county from top to bottom at every level. The main concern of the county CPC secretary is to see that members on the committee do a good job. They in turn supervise another group of people in the party organization at a lower level. That way the county CPC secretary can cut down on the amount of time spent on daily routines and devote most of his attention to the consideration of significant, long-range problems. (3) Team management. To discharge his role as a "team leader" satisfactorily, the county CPC secretary must rely on the organizational principle of democratic centralism and step up ideological and political work. Accordingly, he must be fair in dealing with his subordinates and reward and punish them by the criteria of virtue, diligence, achievement and competence. Within the leading group, the stress must be on coordination. There must be mutual respect and understanding, with each complementing and cooperating with one another. (4) Efficiency management, that is, time management. The hours when we are most alert, most efficient, must be reserved for the most difficult jobs. The effectiveness of meetings must be improved and dispensable meetings must not be held. Meeting participants must practice economy of speech. (5) Personnel selection and appointment. In selecting people for jobs, we must be careful to give play to their strengths and avoid their weaknesses. There must be quantitative analysis of strengths and qualitative analysis of weaknesses so that we discover weaknesses amid strengths and encourage strengths despite weaknesses.

B. Policy-making is a county CPC secretary's basic function. Whether or not correct policy decisions are made at the right time affects the outcome of our enterprise. (1) Correct policies are the result of a scientific policy-making process. In the course of policy-making, we must be careful to treat a policy as a coherent entity. We must not allow a situation in which everybody makes his own policy and does his own thing. We must also make sure policy-making is scientific, instead of relying exclusively on power and influence. The various stages of the policy-making process must be carried out in a proper order: we cannot make a decision first and then test its validity. (2) To make sure policies are made at the right time, we need a high-caliber advisory body. A county CPC secretary must make skilful use of "brain-trusters" and bring out the best in them by being receptive to their opinions. This should

be accompanied by a receptiveness to public opinion. (3) Resolute policy-making requires both courage and knowledge. Knowledge means a firm and correct sense of direction, scientific knowledge and a clear understanding of the actual conditions. Courage means bravely adhering to right decisions and correcting wrong ones. It also means correcting and learning from partly wrong decisions realistically so that we can move ahead. (4) Also needed is a streamlined but highly efficient executive organization.

C. Coordination is what a county CPC secretary does all the time. (1) To be a "glue," a county CPC secretary must smooth out the relations between party committee organizations and government organizations and coordinate between various economic tasks. Toward that end, he must facilitate the flow of information so that everybody understands everybody else. He must make clear-cut and prompt decisions in the following three kinds of situation: first, when some irregularity has occurred; second, when a subordinate asks for instructions on a major issue; and third, when there is a difference of opinion among the people around him. (2) He must be adept at coordinating between the leadership and masses. He must try to be the masses' confidant. To do that, he must first go into the midst of the people and understand them. Second, he must do his best to make time to receive visiting citizens most warmly. He must also enthusiastically respond to the letters sent in by the public. Third, he must provide his subordinates with an optimal environment. This must not be interpreted to mean only or even primarily material compensation. More important is the creation of a "psychological milieu" where people can do the best they can. The so-called "psychological milieu" refers to the intellectual and working environment capable of influencing a worker's mental and psychological state. A good psychological milieu provides an impetus to people to excel.

To grasp the overall situation and set priorities, the county CPC secretary must also take pains to improve personal learning. First, he must study basic Marxist theories and the party's policies and principles and firmly lay down a correct direction for county work. Then he must study management science, leadership science and organizational psychology, among other things, to improve the level of leadership.

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CENTRAL-SOUTH REGION

MEETING OF HENAN ORGAN LEADING CADRES HELD

HK060930 Zhengzhou Henan Provincial Service in Mandarin 1030 GMT 1 Apr 86

[Text] Our province scored certain achievements in straightening out party style and correcting unhealthy trends in the previous stage. It is now necessary to vigorously strengthen discipline in the organs at the provincial level in the next step. This was announced on 31 March by the provincial CPC Committee's leadership group for straightening out party style at the meeting of leading cadres of the organs at the provincial level.

When we look back on party rectification in the organs at the provincial level, we know that since November last year, we have grasped the correction of six unhealthy trends existing in party and government organs--rushing to buy imported cars; indiscriminately sending personnel abroad; party and government organs engaging in commerce and running enterprises; using public funds to tour, eat, drink, and entertain; and obtaining gain other than wages obtained in ill-gotten ways. We have generally examined the problems existing in party style and vigorously investigated and dealt with the big cases to promote further improvement of party style.

The provincial leadership group for straightening out party style pointed out: After we review party rectification in the organs at the provincial level, our work at the next step is to strengthen discipline. Strengthening discipline is an important link to ensure a fundamental turn for the better in party style and to correct unhealthy trends. In strengthening discipline this time, we must mainly strengthen party's political discipline, organizational discipline, discipline in keeping secrets, and discipline of all aspects of work. In the organs at the provincial level, we must mainly solve the problems of liberalism, individualism, and bureaucratism--three bad ideological workstyles. We must link strengthening discipline with investigating and dealing with the big and important cases.

Liu Zhengwei, deputy secretary of the provincial CPC Committee, and Lin Yinghai and Song Zhaosu, provincial CPC Committee standing committee members, attended the meeting. In his speech, Comrade Liu Zhengwei stressed: At the next step of the work of strengthening discipline, we must grasp it stage by stage, unit by unit, and case by case. He hoped that leading cadres at all levels of organs at the provincial level would take the lead in strengthening discipline and straightening out party style and set an example for the whole province.

SOUTHWEST REGION

XIZANG HOLDS MEETING ON IMPROVING PROPAGANDA WORK STYLE

HK010719 Lhasa Xizang Regional Service in Mandarin 1130 GMT 29 Mar 86

[Excerpts] On the afternoon of 28 March, at the report meeting of the regional propaganda system on straightening out party style, Li Weilun, director of the propaganda department of the regional CPC Committee, said: In studying the documents on straightening out party style, it is necessary to link theory with practice. The most important work in strengthening discipline is to conduct criticism and self-criticism. Linking theory with practice is the central link, while criticism and self-criticism is a sharp weapon. Only by firmly grasping these two aspects of work can we score achievements in straightening out party style.

Since the rally of the regional organs on straightening out party style, the party organizations of all units of the regional propaganda system have immediately responded to the call. They have seriously studied the relevant documents of the CPC Central Committee and regional CPC Committee on straightening out party style. In conjunction with the realities of their own units, they have vigorously conducted criticism and self-criticism. At the same time, they have seriously investigated and dealt with cases of violation of discipline. A very good situation has emerged. However, some individual comrades do not clearly understand the significance of straightening out party style this time and straightening our guiding ideology. Some people hold that a propaganda organ is not a profitmaking yamen [government office in feudal China] and that there is nothing to be investigated there. Some people hold that straightening out party style is a matter of their upper-level leaders and has nothing to do with themselves.

In view of this, Comrade Li Weilun said: The two aspects of work--integrating theory with practice and practicing criticism and self-criticism--are the important contents of the party's three important styles of work. While we are straightening out party style this time, we do not casually make everyone pass the test but strictly conduct education in ideals for the great majority of people. To score achievements in education, it is essential to integrate theory with practice and to practice criticism and self-criticism.

Comrade Li Weilun said: To investigate and deal with cases of violation of discipline, it is also imperative to practice criticism and self-criticism. Through criticism and self-criticism we can then expose problems. We must implement the principle of simultaneously studying, going into action, and carrying out rectification and correction. To investigate and deal with the big and important cases, it is very important to strengthen the masses' confidence. All units must, therefore, attach importance to this work. We must also vigorously commend good people and good events.

In conclusion, Comrade Li Weilun stressed: The propaganda system must regard the publicizing of and education in straightening out party style as the current most important ideological and political work and grasp it continuously, firmly, and well.

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CSO: 4005/582

SOUTHWEST REGION

XIZANG RALLY MOBILIZES CADRES TO GO TO RURAL AREAS

HK020209 Lhasa Xizang Regional Service in Mandarin 1130 GMT 1 Apr 86

[Excerpts] The regional CPC Committee and government held a gathering on 1 April to mobilize organ cadres to improve their leadership style and go down to the grassroots and among the peasants and herdsmen, implement the party policy on enriching the people, work together to solve problems of eliminating poverty and getting rich, and help the masses to get rich as soon as possible. Danzing, deputy secretary of the regional CPC Committee, presided. Also present were responsible comrades of the party and government including Wu Jinghua, Raidi, Doje Cering, Gyanincain Norbu, Hu Songjie, and Jiang Cuo.

Doje Cering, deputy secretary of the regional CPC Committee and acting chairman of the regional government, delivered a mobilization report. He said: sending large numbers of cadres to the rural areas, is the requirement of upholding the ideological line of seeking truth from facts and consciously and creatively implementing the party's series of policies for enriching the rural and pastoral areas.

The general demand on the cadres going down to the rural areas is that they should further publicize and implement the party's principles and policies for the rural and pastoral areas, centering on eliminating poverty and enriching the people, consolidate and develop the fruits of reforms in those areas, help the masses to formulate and firm up measures for getting rich, do a good job of building grassroots political power, build socialist spiritual civilization, and develop the excellent situation in the rural and pastoral areas.

/9738

CSO: 4005/582

NORTH REGION

HEBEI SECRETARY ON POPULARIZING SCIENTIFIC, LEGAL KNOWLEDGE

SK100952 Shijiazhuang Hebei Provincial Service in Mandarin 2300 GMT 28 Mar 86

[Text] Xing Chongzhi, secretary of the provincial CPC Committee, recently wrote a preface for the book "Sanpuji Tongsu Duwu" [A Book on Three Popularizations for Popular Consumption] which will soon be published by the rural book publishing house. This book was compiled and written by competent personnel who were organized by the Propaganda Department of the Baoding City CPC Committee, and the city office for five-stress, four-beauty, and three-ardent-love activities.

The preface says: It is very beneficial to carry out extensive three popularization activities focusing on popularizing general, scientific and technological, and legal knowledge in rural areas because they can enrich the people's knowledge, upgrade the competence of peasants, promote the building of the material and spiritual civilizations and combine them into one fairly successfully, expedite the readjustment of the rural production setup, and turn science and technology into social productive forces more quickly. The three popularization activities of our province have been carried out after the building of civilized villages cooperatively by army men and civilians. They conform to the general rules on building civilized villages, and possess their own characteristics. In view of the practice of some localities, we should properly handle the relationship between upgrading the competence of peasants in an all-round manner and developing production and increasing income at present when we carry out the activities. The activities should be focused on developing the rural economy, and efforts should be made to provide the masses with the technologies urgently needed in their efforts to develop the commodity economy and achieve affluence through diligent labor. We should properly handle the relationship between book knowledge and practical application, between the popularization of scientific and technological knowledge and the popularization of general and legal knowledge, and between popularization and upgrading. We should grasp the popularization of knowledge with one hand and the upgrading of the competence of peasants with the other so that the activities can be developed in range and quality. We should also properly handle the relationship between (educating people according to their aptitude) and strengthening leadership. It is an urgent need of

peasants to popularize general, scientific and technological, and legal knowledge. Comrade Mao Zedong said that the enthusiasm of the masses will not last long and develop along a correct track or to a high level if there is enthusiasm alone without an effective leading body to organize it. Therefore, we should persistently adhere to the guiding principle of (?educating people according to their aptitude), exercising positive leadership, introducing experiences, and rendering enthusiastic service when carrying the three popularization activities.

/9604

CSO: 4005/589

NORTH REGION

HEBEI HOLDS DISCIPLINE INSPECTION COMMISSION SESSION

SK100220 Shijiazhuang Hebei Provincial Service in Mandarin 2300 GMT 2 Apr 86

[Excerpts] The third enlarged plenary session of the second Hebei Provincial Discipline Inspection Commission opened in the provincial capital of Shijiazhuang on 1 April. The main topics for discussion at the session are to relay and implement the guidelines of the Seventh Plenary Session of the Central Discipline Inspection Commission, and to make arrangements and plans for the province's work of rectifying party style and checking unhealthy trends this year.

At the plenary session held on 1 April, Bai Shi, secretary of the provincial Discipline Inspection Commission, first relayed the guidelines of the Seventh Plenary Session of the Central Discipline Inspection Commission. He then made a few remarks on the province's work of rectifying party style. While touching on the province's main tasks in rectifying party style this year, Comrade Bai Shi said: In line with the guidelines of the Seventh Plenary Session of the Central Discipline Inspection Commission and the requirements of the provincial CPC Committee, we put forward four tasks: 1) We should vigorously check all kinds of unhealthy trends; 2) do a good job in grasping education on party spirit; 3) strictly consolidate discipline; and 4) deeply carry out the work of dealing blows to serious economic criminal activities.

Comrade Bai Shi said: It is necessary to have the efforts of the whole party in order to achieve a fundamental turn for the better in party style. The CPC committees and party groups of the various departments at all levels should formulate specific plans in line with the demands of the provincial CPC Committee, grasp the main problems that may affect the fundamental improvements in party style in the course of conducting investigations and study, and adopt effective measures to solve them conscientiously.

Comrade Bai Shi pointed out: While checking all kinds of unhealthy trends and dealing blows to serious economic offenses, it is necessary to handle the cases in line with policies. We should implement the principle of being resolute and careful in handling cases and not be soft-hearted. We should also be calm, objective, and realistic.

In short, in addition to checking unhealthy trends and dealing blows to economic crimes, we should also draw a clear demarcation line in regard to some policies in order to guarantee reform and vitalize the economy.

NORTH REGION

BEIJING HOLDS MEETING TO PAY RESPECTS TO ZHANG JIESHI'S REMAINS

SK100146 Beijing BEIJING RIBAO in Chinese 29 Mar 86 p 1

[Text] A ceremony for paying last respects to the remains of Zhang Jieshi was held at the auditorium of the Beijing Babao Shan revolutionary cemetery on 28 March. Zhang Jieshi was an outstanding Communist Party member, a special-grade municipal model worker, an outstanding plant director, the winner of the "1 May" labor medal given by the All-China Federation of Trade Unions, and the manager of the Beijing Changcheng Raincoat Company.

The central and the Beijing municipal leading comrades concerned, including Duan Junyi, Yuan Baohua, Yang Bo, Li Ximing, Chen Xitong, Wang Wenzhe, Kang Zhonglun, Chen Shineng, Li Qiyan, Han Boping, Zhang Jianmin, and Zhang Peng, sent wreaths and attended the ceremony for paying last respects to the remains of Zhang Jieshi.

Wreaths were also sent by Ye Lin, Jin Jian, Xu Weicheng, Wang Daming, Zhang Fuyou, Yu Zhen, and Chen Yuan, as well as other leading comrades. The Ministry of Light Industry, the municipal CPC Committee and government, the general office of the State Economic Commission, and the general office of the All-China Federation of Trade Unions also sent wreaths.

More than 400 persons, including friends and relatives of Comrade Zhang Jieshi and staff and workers of the Beijing Changcheng Raincoat Company, attended the ceremony for paying last respects to the remains of Zhang Jieshi. All of them expressed their heartfelt condolences to this entrepreneur who had dedicated his life to reform and performed his official duties honestly, and extended cordial regards to the friends and relatives of the deceased.

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CSO: 4005/589

NORTH REGION

BRIEFS

BAOTOU CITY CPC CONGRESS--The sixth party congress of Baotou City, Nei Monggol Autonomous Region, was held from 24 to [no date given] March. The congress elected the new leading body of the city party committee and held earnest discussions on the basis of summing up the experience gained in the past with regard to opinions on strengthening the building of the two civilizations during the implementation period of the Seventh 5-Year Plan, and major tasks for building the party. At the first plenary session of the sixth Baotou City CPC Committee, (Zhang Cangong) was elected secretary of the city party committee and (Wu Jie), (Zhuang Xin), (Tang Jiewen), and (Wang Peizhong) were elected deputy secretaries of the city party committee. [Text] [Hohhot Nei Monggol Regional Service in Mandarin 1100 GMT 8 Apr 86] /9604

CADRES RECEIVING ADDITIONAL TRAINING--Beijing, 10 Apr (XINHUA)--More than 100,000 cadres at offices and enterprises in Beijing are being or have been trained at colleges and secondary technical schools since 1983, BEIJING DAILY reported today. The newspaper said the city council was pursuing an 8-year rolling program to train its cadres, who can choose from a list of 98 subjects divided into 10 categories, including politics, economics, history and professional knowledge. Between 1983 and 1985, more than 60,000 cadres took college courses, and 20,000 graduated. In addition, 200,000 cadres have taken various short-term courses. Thirteen universities attached to the Beijing Education Bureau are taking part in the training program, along with 200 institutes, vocational schools, radio and TV schools and technical schools. [Text] [Beijing XINHUA in English 1841 GMT 10 Apr 86] /9604

CSO: 4000/221

NORTHEAST REGION

JPRS-CPS-86-034
28 April 1986

KOREAN REGION BOASTS EDUCATIONAL SUCCESSES

OWO91442 Beijing XINHUA in English 1302 GMT 9 Apr 86

[Text] Changchun, 9 Apr (XINHUA)--The Chinese Koreans are probably the best educated among the minority ethnic groups in China, according to the Jilin Provincial Education Committee.

An educational system complete for pre-school and school-age children and for adults has been set up in the Yanbian Korean Autonomous Prefecture in the province, where nearly half of the 1,763,870 Chinese Koreans live.

The third population census in 1982 showed that in the prefecture there were 22,000 people with a university education and 300,000 with a senior high-school education, a ratio higher than the national average.

Primary education became universal in the prefecture in the early 1950s. Now Yanbian has 1,200 primary schools and 230 middle schools, enabling 98 percent of the youngsters to receive a regular education. In addition, there are 24 agricultural and other vocational schools with an enrollment of nearly 10,000.

Yanbian University, China's only one run by and for one single minority nationality, has turned out more than 10,000 graduates since it was founded in 1949.

"Whatever the financial conditions, children must go to school"--this is a universal saying among the Koreans, who also take pride in sending their children to universities.

In Yanbian University, over 70 percent of the students and 80 percent of the teaching staff are Koreans. The postgraduate school of the university has been authorized to offer the master and doctorate degrees in 16 subjects of study.

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CSO: 4000/223

NORTHEAST REGION

BRIEFS

KOREAN WAR MARTYRS' TOMBS SWEPT--Shenyang, 5 Apr (XINHUA)--More than 500 people from all walks of life in Liaoning Province and Shenyang City today visited and swept the tombs of revolutionary martyrs of the War To Resist U.S. Aggression and Aid Korea. They laid wreaths at the revolutionary martyrs' tombs and viewed the relics of martyrs Huang Jiguang, Yang Gensi, Qiu Shaoyun, Sun Zhanyuan, and Yang Liandi in the cemetery's exhibition hall. [Text] [Beijing XINHUA Domestic Service in Chinese 1603 GMT 5 Apr 86] /9604

CSO: 4005/590

JPRS-CPS-86-034
28 April 1986

NORTHWEST REGION

SHAANXI'S NORTHWEST UNIVERSITY EXPANSION SET AS KEY PROJECT

HK310201 Xian Shaanxi Provincial Service in Mandarin 0030 GMT 31 Mar 86

[Text] Northwest University has been designated as a key point in the seventh 5-year plan construction in Shaanxi. During the period of the plan, this old school, which has been under construction for a long time, will undergo considerable development. The number of students will rise to over 8,000 and the number of teachers, staff, and workers to over 3,000. The university will also enroll students from foreign countries.

Vice Governors Zhang Bin and Lin Jizhou recently went to the university, accompanied by responsible comrades of the provincial planning commission and higher education bureau, to make specific studies of the development plan together with party and government leaders of the school, administrative cadres, and some faculty heads. Zhang Bin said: Northwest University is an old school which has been under construction for quite a long time. During the seventh 5-year plan, we must fully tap its potentials and train still more talented people of all types for the province's economic construction and social development, and also to provide more fruits of basic research and applied studies.

He demanded that the university complete preparations this year for construction of a 15,000 square meter modern library. It should also draw up reports on construction of large-scale electronic teaching and of basic living facilities.

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CSO: 4005/582

NORTHWEST REGION

SHAANXI RADIO URGES PUNISHMENT FOR SLANDERERS

HK280341 Xian Shaanxi Provincial Service in Mandarin 2300 Gmt 27 Mar 86

[Station commentary: "Those Who Make False Accusations Must Be Sentenced to the Same Punishment Facing Those They Wrongly Accused"]

[Excerpts] (Di Bingcheng), who made false accusations against and framed others, eventually came to grief and was punished by the law. This case is profoundly enlightening and educational.

Due to the pernicious influence of the cultural revolution and corrosion by capitalist ideology, certain people have been infected by ugly notions of harming others to benefit themselves and engaging in foul trickery. They are always out to make false accusations against and frame others. Some, who are seriously individualist, lay charges against those who criticize and denounce them. Some regard people who persist in principles as a nail in the eye and a thorn in the flesh and arbitrarily fabricate evidence of crimes against them, distributing anonymous letters everywhere and using the trick of making false accusations to frame them.

It must be pointed out that every time we examine and promote cadres and readjust the leadership groups, certain people who harbor evil intentions always want to make a move. They resort to all kinds of despicable means, moved by jealousy, revenge, or unspeakable aims, by speaking and acting on hearsay evidence, exaggerating things, making something out of nothing, fabricating facts, writing sinister letters, and laying sinister charges. They thus frame certain good comrades and good cadres in a bid to muddy the waters.

The cadres and masses have the greatest resentment of the practice of making false accusations. However, many areas and units fail to act with strictness in investigating, dealing with, and cracking down on problems of this type. This is a major reason why the practice of making false accusations is hard to stop.

In order to put a stop to this practice, we must seriously sum up experiences and lessons in this respect and distinguish between right and wrong.

In connection with investigating and dealing with cases of this type, we should further improve education in totally negating the cultural revolution and mobilize the cadres and masses to wage resolute struggle against all acts of making false accusations and framing others, so that this malpractice can be effectively curbed.

It must also be pointed out that the (Di Bingcheng) case has also exposed the ideological and work style problems in the political and legal work contingent. The great majority of our political and legal cadres and policemen are good and are able to seriously execute their sacred duty of protecting the people and striking at the enemy. However, a few people are seriously infected with the idea of being specially privileged, and use their powers to pursue private aims. Some arbitrarily make things difficult for the masses and bully and oppress them. Some ignore the law by protecting and conniving at bad people and taking revenge on and framing good people. Since they have a certain degree of power, it is relatively easy for them to engage in lawbreaking and crime. The consequences and affects are therefore all the more serious.

In order to properly solve the problems in this respect, the political and legal departments at all levels must be resolved to summon up great energy to seriously rectify the political and legal contingent. The few cadres and policemen who flout the law they are supposed to enforce must be severely punished. We must apply the (Di Bingcheng) case as an example of education by negative example to conduct education for the cadres and policemen in party spirit and police discipline and behavior, and resolutely oppose the privileged mentality in the political and legal contingent. We must enhance awareness of observing discipline and law, in order to restore the lofty image of the cadres and policemen among the masses and make contributions to accomplishing a fundamental turn for the better in party style and social mood.

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CSO: 4005/582

NORTHWEST REGION

BRIEFS

XINJIANG EDUCATION STATISTICS--Since the CPC Central Committee published its decision on reform of the educational structure in May last year, Xinjiang Region and all prefectures and counties in the region have successively held education conferences to convey and implement the spirit of the national and regional conferences on education and formulated plans for each place and department to popularize 9-year compulsory education. Many counties, towns, townships, and villages have vigorously raised funds to set up schools. Subsidies appropriated by the Central Authorities and the region for primary school capital construction last year amounted to 12.5 million yuan, with which school premises on 13,000 square meters were built, resulting in improved conditions in 249 primary schools throughout the region. Last year, the region also raised 47.21 million yuan to repair dangerous middle and primary school premises on some 400,000 square meters. Last year, the region ran some 100 short-term teachers' training courses. [Summary] [Urumqi Xinjiang Regional Service in Mandarin 1300 GMT 4 Apr 86 HK] /9738

CSO: 4005/582

MILITARY AND PUBLIC SECURITY AFFAIRS

REPORT ON GUIDED MISSILE TEST CITY GIVEN

Beijing KUNLUN in Chinese No 1, 20 Jan 86 pp 149-169

[Article by Luo Laiyong [5012 0171 0516]: "China's Rocket Heroes"]

[Text] Look west as you emerge from Yanmen Pass and you can see the winding Great Wall, together with the blurred outlines of the ruins of ancient beacon towers and old fortresses in the mist. The melodious sound of the ox-horn Qiang flute and metallic gongs and drums is wafting in the air.

Here you are in close communion with the spirit of the Chinese nation.

In June 1966, a remodeled Soviet-made reconnaissance plane circled above this land, making the peasants curious. For several days in a row it unfailingly appeared at a certain hour and hovered overhead. Apart from the flight crew, a reconnaissance expert who reported to Premier Zhou Enlai at the Great Hall of the People 2 months ago was also in the cockpit. Behind him was Qiao, [0829], deputy chief of staff and, later, commander of China's guided missile test city. Qiao, who was 1.80 meters, had the hefty build typical of a Shandong man and a face that spoke determination. Before he took up his position at the guided missile test city, he was artillery commander of a certain unit. The purpose of his present mission was to assist the reconnaissance expert to carry out Chairman Mao Zedong's and Premier Zhou Enlai's orders to tentatively select a site for a missile test city.

They had flown over thousands of square kilometers and made a comparative study of the seven proposed sites.

Copies of the detailed report were sent to the headquarters of the National Defense Science and Technology Commission and Premier Zhou Enlai's office. This was another sleepless night for the premier. In his plainly appointed office at Zhongnanhai, which was the focus of world attention, the premier read through the report carefully, then closed it and walked over to the enlarged military map. His bright, piercing eyes fixed their gaze at the familiar land. A ladder to heaven, to the universe, would be built where the flames of war used to burn. Yes, if they were to join the ranks of the world's nations, the Chinese people must have the capability to protect their independence and self-determination and highly sophisticated science and technology. A grand design for China's space endeavor had already taken shape

in the premier's mind. He had already instructed the National Defense Science and Technology Commission to consider launching spacecraft at the future guided missile test site. At that point the Telegram Building's bell chime was heard across the lake at Zhongnanhai, a sign that daybreak was approaching.

A breezy summer night in the mountains. Politics had reached a feverish pitch in the provincial capital and county seat as those places reverberated to the cries of rebellion. Here, however, a pristine tranquillity still prevailed. They were put up by the masses in the latter's mud-and-brick houses. After examining the drafts prepared by his technical assistants, the reconnaissance expert left the house for a round of inspection outside. During the day, he personally led the "kids" (his name for students from Beijing, Qinghua and Harbin Military Engineering Universities) on a 100-kilometer trip. These student soldiers were all fine young people. The jeep took them up the slope which had been trodden by flocks of sheep. When the slope became too steep for the vehicle, they got off and prospected on foot. Qiao first slung his haversack across his shoulder and the students followed suit. Inside each haversack were a jar of water and three pancakes; that was all they had for lunch. As the students said, "If our leader can put up with pancakes, it is only right for young people like us to do likewise." This was a time when people shared weal and woe in order to revive China. Everybody was bursting with drive and energy.

They made an on-the-spot survey of the radar station. Under the leadership of Deputy Chief of Staff Qiao, the survey team descended on deep valleys and climbed steep mountains. The backbone of the team was engineer Pan Peitai [3382 1014 3141], then not yet 40. He had bushy eyebrows and handsome eyes and was bright and capable. He was also a superb mountain climber.

Well, this was certainly a high mountain. It "soared into the sky and dwarfed all other peaks." The mountain in front of the deputy chief of staff was exactly the spot where General Wang Ruofei [3769 5387 7378] and Army Commander Ye Ting [0673 2185] were killed in a plane accident; a monument had been built halfway up the mountain. The mountain echoed to Pan Peitai's Shanghai-accented Putonghua.

Deputy Chief of Staff Qiao gazed at the well-known mountain silently for a long time. It had been over 30 years since he joined the revolution. His head of coarse hair had now turned white. Was he, at this point, again thinking about his responsibilities? Was he contemplating the revolutionary martyrs' unfinished tasks?

If there are tens of thousands of ideal-minded people in the military who "concern themselves with the world's ills ahead of others and are not happy until everybody else is happy," then Qiao is certainly one of them. Ever since he joined the revolution, he had dedicated himself to the nation and people. When the country was liberated, he was already a grassroots commander in the southern army. From a mere soldier to deputy chief of staff and later commander of the guided missile test city, his military career spanned 35 years and lasted from the 1940's to the 1970's. As the revolution triumphed and the people began to settle down and live and work happily, soldiers and

generals removed their military uniforms and left the army for the bliss of domestic life. Yet for Qiao, family life lasted only a few short years while he was studying at the military academy. As the saying goes, "Human beings are not grass and wood. How can anybody not have feelings?" For his whole life, however, Qiao suppressed the romantic side of his nature and made state affairs his bounden duty. He was separated from his wife and children for over 20 years. Only in 1985 when he resigned from his position did the idea of living out his twilight years in peace occur to him. He was then 63.

There was nobody in the guided missile test city who did not respect Qiao for his lifelong incorruptibility. Since he stressed thrift in every way, he gave people the feeling that he had a "peasant mentality." Once a vice chairman (i.e., deputy commander) of the National Defense Science and Technology Commission was in town on an inspection tour. Qiao accompanied him back to the capital. His entourage bought some bananas and other fruit for their trip. But Qiao sternly chided the his staff member responsible, "These are expensive fruit and you paid for them with public funds. If this happens again, I will throw the stuff out." His subordinate tried to defend himself, explaining, "I did not buy them for you alone. There is also the vice chairman from the commission." Qiao said, "He is here for inspection purposes. We need serve him only rice and vegetables."

Decades of plain, frugal living had forged a deep-seated standard in him. In upholding this standard, he was prone to exploding in anger mercilessly, regardless of the occasion, whenever somebody misspent a fen of public fund.

"As you occupy an official position, so you worry about affairs of state," so the saying goes. Only people who knew Qiao extremely well realized his innermost concerns. Word was already out from headquarters that the three proposed large-scale space projects, including the construction of a spacecraft launch pad, had been put on hold for a reason well known to every high-ranking general -- the state was strapped financially and could not come up with the necessary funds. Every time he passed by the spacecraft launch pad where work had been suspended and the sites for the other two projects and saw the half-excavated foundation, his concern welled up inside him: What alternative do we have other than saving every single penny?

Night had fallen. Silence reigned in the mountain village and desolate countryside. No neon lights here, only the barking of dogs and the crowing of roosters at midnight. From the perspective of the 1980's, such isolation and solitude are well-nigh unbearable. For Qiao and Pan Peitai, it was not a question of putting up with solitude: they rejoiced in it. Theirs was the kind of rejoicing one feels when one's dream comes true: they had selected a site for the radar station. Oh, how many days of grueling work went into it. Throughout that period all they could think of were a host of concepts: the required radar scanning range, the visibility between different radar stations.

Morning had hardly broken when engineer Pan Peitai and the expert from the mapping bureau at general staff headquarters set off to climb separate peaks as planned. Guided missile testing makes it imperative that no mountain peaks come between different radar stations so that there would be unobstructed

vision between them. At the specified time, Pan Peitai raised his powerful telescope and focused at a selected peak scores of kilometers away. However, poor weather rendered his counterpart's reflecting equipment unworkable.

They sat on the peasant-style adobe in the dim light of night, cudgeling their brains. Somebody suggested that they use the ancient beacon tower method and light a fire as an observation device. Pan Peitai shook his head and said, "Won't work. The dancing flames will mislead us." As the night deepened, everybody could not help but doze off at the adobe: it had been a long day. But Pan Peitai did not feel tired at all. Since he did not smoke, he just leaned against the adobe, thinking hard. Suddenly a spark of an idea crossed his mind -- use the air-dropping method to set up indicators! Sure, it was a painstaking method. But China, after all, was a penniless nation struggling to develop itself when other nations imposed a blockade against it. Could we possibly avoid shedding blood, sweat and tears?

The next day, Pan Peitai explained his plan to the comrades, which was unanimously approved. They then went to the villagers and asked them to help carry lime up the mountains. Soon hundreds of square meters of white lime were at the peak. When they saw in the telescope the snow-like white spots, comrades on the survey team jumped up like little children.

We call the launching of a rocket "a ladder to heaven." That is no exaggeration. Each of the stages involved -- from research, design, manufacturing to launching, tracking and recovery -- represents a rung on the ladder. Through such maneuvers as radar ranging and optical tracking at a speed much faster than modern television transmission frequency, radar stations record the way the rocket cruises in space and accurately determine its flight orbit. When a rocket deviates from its predetermined path, it is the responsibility of the radar station to provide a basis for action to the command center for the latter to issue an order to have the rocket destroyed. This is an indispensable rung on the ladder to heaven.

The ladder was now in place. When would our rocket lift off?

A Special Propellant

On the eve of the Zhenbao Island incident, all signs pointed to a deterioration in Chinese-Soviet relations, to the intense concern of the whole world. The United States, bogged down in the Vietnam quagmire, was anxious to divert China's attention to its northern border, so its media kept harping on the theme that top-level Soviet leaders were considering whether or not to destroy China's sophisticated weapons in their infancy; otherwise they might become increasingly difficult to tackle later. Yet intelligence sources in Paris and London believed that such hue and cry was a mere ploy by the Central Intelligence Agency to sharpen Chinese-Soviet antagonism and hence reduce pressure on the United States.

However foreign nations schemed and maneuvered, the People's Republic of China had matured considerably, like a youth fast approaching his twentieth birthday. When it looked back on its history, it realized that prosperity and strength were prerequisites for national independence. It was a trying hour

for the People's Republic. A large number of teachers and veteran revolutionaries, who had nothing but the nation's welfare at heart, were branded as disreputable people after being accused of engineering the "February countercurrent." As the economy languished and political intrigues thickened, people directly in charge of China's state-of-the-art science and technology, Chairman Marshal Nie Rongzhen [5119 2837 5271] and Vice Chairman Zhang Aiping [1728 1947 5493] of the National Defense Science and Technology Commission, were stripped of their power. Unable for the time being to keep the eminent veterans in their posts, Premier Zhou Enlai took over the heavy responsibility himself. With his acute sense of destiny of the nation, the premier realized that to end China's scientific and technological development then was to let the Chinese people down.

As a string of incidents including the "Xinjiang Shihezi massacre" and the "plundering of aid materials for Vietnam" in Guangxi plunged the country into chaos and darkness, the strictest of orders went out to all sections of the Lanzhou-Xinjiang Railway. Railway workers told one another most gravely, "This is a personal order from Premier Zhou Enlai." The order was that the Lanzhou Railway Bureau should do its utmost to ensure the safety of special through trains No x and No x.

At the scheduled time, the special through trains sped by. The series of boxcars skipped the major stations, stopping briefly only at small remote stations. During such a stop, a number of soldiers would emerge from the train to take the prepared provisions on board. As they walked by the rifle-carrying soldiers, maintenance workers might occasionally be able to glance inside the train and see a number of tarpaulin-covered oddly-shaped objects. They could not figure out why that stuff was so important.

On board the two military through trains were none other than technicians and operators highly valued by the nation and its most advanced guided missile test equipment at the time.

The deputy leader of the launch team, Jiang [1203], (years later promoted deputy commander of the guided missile test city), was then on board the first military through train, closely watching the situation at the station ahead. Jiang was one of the launch experts of China's first-generation rockets.

When he was leader of the launch squadron at the nation's first rocket test range, he worked with rocket experts from the Soviet army and successfully put into space China's first-generation rockets which were functionally equivalent to Hitler's U-2 rocket. At a time when Soviet and U.S. satellites were cruising in space, those Soviet-made rockets were clearly becoming outdated. Now he was instructed to go to the guided missile test city designed and built by China itself. His mission -- launch the nation's second-generation Chinese-built medium-range rockets. As he recalled what he was told by the technical department, namely that the test city was capable of launching medium-range rockets, he overflowed with enthusiastic ardor and was proud that he was shouldering such a heavy responsibility for the nation, at the same time paying extra attention to the safety of the equipment and technical personnel. On the one hand, he must prevent rebels on the way from looting the trains on the assumption that they carried weapons. On the other hand, he

must make sure his own men did not cause any accidents. He asked everybody to protect the equipment the way he protected his own life and had the squad of security guards fully armed to deal with any attempt to rob the trains. Of course, the guns had all been unloaded; you can only fire warning shots when dealing with your own people. As the trains made it safely through one station after another, he began to feel more at ease.

At this point a university student who had recently joined the military leaned forward and asked, "Deputy regimental leader, we cannot smoke even a single cigarette, can we?"

"Not even half a cigarette," he said with curt finality. "We made the regulations before we left. Now let us stick to them." Smoking was strictly prohibited in the units under his command. When he was leader of the test team, only nine engineering and technical workers were allowed to smoke. Their names were made public and the snack counter was instructed to sell cigarettes only to those people.

His extremism was not without reason.

There was a soldier called Wang Lai [3769 0171] in the squadron stationed near the original rocket range. Jiang knew this outstanding soldier well. One day, a lighted cigarette caused some equipment at the launch site to catch fire. Working frantically, Wang Lai managed to extinguish the blaze but caught fire himself. He could have rolled on the ground there and then to put out the fire but, anxious to protect the launch site, he dashed toward the open space outside, still burning. All the people saw was a moving fireball raging more and more fiercely as the wind fanned the flames. By now Wang Lai's whole body was ablaze; even the soles of his rubber shoes were burned out. He kept running and suddenly collapsed as he reached the safe zone. Now and then Jiang would relate this incident angrily to soldiers under him who smoked, "A fine soldier of ours lost his life just because somebody wanted to take a few puffs."

As the train wound its way through a more tortuous part of the journey, Jiang looked out at the long line of cars and thought to himself that both equipment and personnel these days were more precious than before. Almost every railroad car behind him carried one or two college students. All in their 20's, these college students represented the cream of the crop. With his soldier's memory, Jiang remembered everybody's name: Zhang Muhan [1728 1970 7281], a graduate of the Xian Telecommunications Engineering College and a specialist in semiconductor physics; Ning Guangxue [1337 0342 1331] of Xibei Technical University; Li Liangjun [2621 5328 0971], who came from Beijing Aeronautical Engineering College; Li Jiamin [2621 0857 2404], a graduate of Harbin Military Engineering College...

To Jiang, these names not only indicated an educational standard but also suggested a precious quality. The combination of this quality and culture made him confident that he could accomplish any launch mission.

A stretch of deserted, impoverished land, the guided missile test city at the time could hardly be called a "city." A local folk rhyme went like this:

"There are poor people elsewhere, but we are poorer than others." The selection of this site met requirement that "a minimum amount of land be taken up and a minimum number of people be relocated." On the other hand, because it was so far away from the cities, there were serious food and housing problems for the soldiers. Cave dwellings were considered good housing, along with houses with walls of rammed earth and others made of sun-dried mud bricks. Since tents were temporarily unavailable, the commander of the launch squadron had the villagers' cattle and sheep pens cleaned up and used them as quarters.

According to historical records, it was not unusual for this place to snow in June during the Ming and Qing Dynasties. Whenever that happened, tens of thousands of people were frozen to death in the mountains.

It was dawn not long after the unit moved in. Suddenly the guards reported hearing thunderous noises in the gully behind them. At that point torrential rain came pouring down. Jiang at once ordered the unit to evacuate to high ground where the garage was located. Within an instant the torrents rushed down with a roar, washing away bedding, clothing and shoes and scattering them all over the gully. Jiang sternly prohibited everybody from entering the water to salvage the articles of daily use as long as the equipment was not endangered. The date for the launch test was approaching and he could not afford an accident involving a single person. Almost no article of daily use survived the disaster. On Army Day, 1 August, an important occasion for soldiers, they ate saltwater pancakes.

But all the launch equipment was now in place. The glistening guided missile entered the technical base as scheduled. It lay there like an obedient baby, putting up uncomplainingly with all the technical personnel's probing equipment.

Jiang was well known for being tough and strict with his men. He subscribed to the theory that "you cannot rule an army with kindness."

Ning Guangxue, a graduate of Xibei Technical University, had long heard about Jiang's disciplinarian ways. One day he was eating in the cafeteria. Somehow he dropped the metal food plate on the floor. "Clank!" The noise was amplified by the silence in the room. A moment later, Ning Guangxue quietly got up and was about to slip out. He did not pick up the plate; he was afraid to.

"Ning Guangxue!" He heard a shout at the back.

"Here!" He stiffened his body and turned around.

"If we drop plates and chopsticks the rest of the time, we will drop pliers and wrenches during a launch. Habits develop over time. Do you understand?"

"Yes, we must not drop those things."

"To err is human. The most important thing is that once we make a mistake, we firmly correct it. Otherwise, we may be courting disaster." Jiang said most

earnestly, "If you leave behind in the rocket a screw the size of a grain of rice or if you forget to push the button as the operation procedures require, and sneak off quietly, the rocket which costs more than tens of millions of yuan will fall back on to earth."

Any accomplished general knows that "you cannot win a war with people press-ganged into the military." In this aspect Jiang was very demanding.

The moment scheduled for the launch drew closer and closer. On the ground and underneath operators in all positions waited with rapt attention for that solemn launch order. Then thunder was heard at the horizon and soon rumbled overhead, accompanied by lightning. In a flash torrential rain came tumbling down. Time passed, minute by minute, but the weather showed no signs of improvement. All launch preparations went down the drain. They had no choice but to reschedule the launch.

The thunderstorm continued. The launch site did not receive any evacuation order. But everybody at the meteorological station was ordered by Jiang to report to the launch site.

When cadres and soldiers from the station raced to the specified place, it was hard to tell whether their faces were covered with sweat or raindrops.

The station master reported to Jiang, "The station reports for duty as ordered. Please instruct."

A grim-faced Jiang said, "Stand by!"

Not a sound was heard throughout the launch site. The rocket units had a saying: "For every hundred people who wield a rifle, one thousand people operate rocket launch equipment controls." Hence you can imagine the many pairs of eyes around the launch site both on the ground and below. Advanced command and communications networks have made it possible for almost everybody to hear the commander's orders. Yet the site was so quiet at that moment that it seemed almost deserted. The only sound was that of raindrops hitting the slushy ground. It was then winter. Although they were dressed in woollens, the young fellows were chilled to the bone as the cold rain slipped down their necks and gradually penetrated their close-fitting garments. The soldiers at the launch pad watched this contingent in the rain in silence. It was a solemn sight.

They could not possibly complain: Jiang too was standing in the rain. Jiang believed that he was partly to blame for the wrong weather forecast. All of them stood facing the towering rocket. The silence was oppressive.

Suddenly amid the silence, something flashed across everybody's mind. Undeniably what he did might not be recommendable, but all remembered the incident very well.

It happened during a test. A propellant was being fed into the rocket. Suddenly a valve failed and the strong corrodant started shooting outward under intense pressure. When a person comes into contact with the corrodant,

he will instantly develop blisters and his contaminated clothes will burn. Once it comes into touch with another fuel in the rocket, it will cause an explosion capable of reducing to ashes everybody and everything on the site. Operator Liu Shoude's [0491 1343 1795] contaminated hands were covered with blisters. His work clothes were on fire, sending forth blue flames. At this critical juncture when his life hung in the balance, he dashed forward and, wearing neither a protective face guard nor gloves, screwed the valve tight with his blistered hands. By that time his chest was burning furiously. But before he had time to put out the fire, he quickly jumped out of his position, his back to the rocket. Thus one soldier saved the launch site by bravely sacrificing himself. It also showed the noble quality of the people of the guided missile test city. China's guided missile test city has not had a single launch accident for more than 20 years because of that quality.

And because it had many soldiers like Jiang, a lot of first-rate launch experts and numerous heroes like Dong Cunrui [5516 1317 3843]. They are the cornerstone of its strength.

The Starry Firmament Embraces China

The verdant mountain range soared 1,700 meters into the sky, its peak reaching into the firmament. Nestled in the valleys were a handful of indistinguishable villages consisting of cave dwellings, making up an uneven mural. The Creator divided this mountain range into two parts, bisecting it at its central valley with a stream. The air was risp, cool and refreshing. By the 1970's the loess road here had been replaced by a dark, wide and glistening asphalt highway. At the top of the road, a mountain city laid out in the shape of the letter "U" sat partly hidden in the morning fog.

As the Chinese economy developed, the crude launch site built by Jiang and his men in the past has also been transformed. What used to be barren, desolate mountains are now covered with tall trees. The special railway and special highway resemble two arms extending directly toward the launch site.

As the towering giant launcher became steadily higher and higher, it was the focus of many a foreign reconnaissance satellite. We have become so confident of our defense capability that we no longer have to cover up our space technology. This year the colorful launcher for intercontinental guided missiles emerged with amazing speed at the center of the launch site. It was as tall as Beijing Hotel and Xiyuan Hotel. Meanwhile, the NEW YORK TIMES wrote, "Today China has the capability to aim its rockets at any corner of the world and destroy the cities of any nation whom its considers its enemy."

But more far-sighted newspapers like the WASHINGTON POST realized that "in the future, China can use its powerful rockets to explore the universe and launch into orbit any rockets required for economic development. The benefits that the peaceful use of rocketry can bring to the Chinese people cannot be ignored."

Midnight. Snow flakes, which had been falling thick and fast all day, came to a stop. Against a faintly blue sky, the dimly lit test city assumed a new, spartan look. At the launcher, a score of iron arms held the upright

intercontinental missile in a close embrace. As thick as the airframe of a Boeing jet, the missile was blanketed with snow. It would be filled with tons of propellant. But this rocket was not for launching. It was to be used in a cold storage test designed by the rocket experts to examine its low-temperature conditions.

As soon as Yang [2799], who was in charge of the technical office, and Officer Shi Yuzong [2457 5940 1350] emerged from the launcher elevator, a bitterly cold wind blew up their leather coats. After casting a glance at the brightly lit launcher, they ran toward a jeep parked nearby. This car was for the test command team's special use and doubled as their haven from the wind and rest shelter. The clock was approaching zero hour. There had been three shifts in the company since early morning. As representatives of the command team, however, they had been at the site throughout the day -- 16 hours so far. Their limbs were stiff with cold, despite their leather coats and layers of cotton and woolen clothing underneath.

The driver turned on the engine and the car got a little warmer. Yang slowly closed his eyes as the cold at last gave way to the day's exhaustion. Scarcely had a moment passed, however, when somebody appeared and asked them to settle an argument between two units. Yang was startled out of his sleep. He opened the car door and disappeared with the visitor into the darkness.

Yang graduated from Beijing Aeronautical Engineering College where he majored in general guided missile design. Shi Yuzong, Yang's junior by a few years, was a graduate of the Beijing Technical University, majoring in guided missile launch setup. A shared intellectual interest and their common defiance of hardships accounted for the tacit understanding between them. Yang was a master of his specialty. He handled affairs in a decisive manner and was efficient and competent. After tempering himself in the barracks for years, Yang blended his intellectual qualities with the dauntlessness and coolness of a soldier. The latter qualities, rarely found among intellectuals, paved the way for his future promotion to be the youngest top cadre in the national defense science and technology system.

Several huge filling vehicles loaded with fuels and oxidizer drove by the jeep and came to a halt near the missile. The filling workers were wearing gas masks. The engines rumbled. The toxic substance in the propellant made the filling stage extremely dangerous to humans. Excessive exposure to the toxic gas can damage such blood-producing organs as the liver and spleen and may even poison the nervous system. Yang and Shi Yuzong did not evacuate from the site. Although they kept distance from the vehicles, they still inhaled a good dose of the toxic gas. They felt nauseous and wanted to throw up: it was as if their internal organs were being churned. Realizing that they had no gas masks on, comrades at the site urged them to move further away. Both brushed aside such advice; they knew only too well the danger at this stage, so they must not lower their guard at all.

When the time came to test the equipment in the rocket in a vertical state, Yang and Shi Yuzong heaved a sigh of relief. Back at the living quarters near the site, Shi Yuzong still felt a little nauseous, so he took over 20 Vitamin B₆ tablets and gradually fell asleep. Suddenly he saw his daughter again on

the banisters. "Danger!" he cried and dashed forward to grab her but missed. Then he woke up -- it was only a dream. But his heart kept beating violently. He sat up, staring at the magnificent launcher in the distance; still the image of his daughter's face refused to go away.

It happened some years back. The launcher was under construction. For convenience's sake, he moved to the site, leaving his wife to care for the two children on her own.

At a science conference held in a northern city, Qian Xuesen [6929 1331 2773], the world-famous scientist and a vice chairman of the National Defense Science and Technology Commission, said, "Our guided missile has passed a barrage of ground tests. In the coming scheduled space tests, we must make sure that not a single missile is fired in vain. We must obtain the necessary data. The nation pinched and saved to come up with the vast sums of money for the project. If we do not do a good job, we will have let our elders and our children down."

Every conference attendant knew first hand the hardships behind this remark. At the time the most important thing for ensuring that "not a single missile is fired in vain" was our capacity for tracking and surveying. Everybody was confident of China's ability to fire a rocket. What they were worried about was that the test city's design capability for radar testing, radar ranging, optical surveying and distant surveying might not meet the requirements of trajectory test. If they lost track of their target, millions of yuan would be wasted.

Pan Peitai, the engineer in charge of the navigation survey office at the guided missile test city, was on pins and needles. Outwardly, he looked calm and confident.

Several experts from the relevant departments suggested two courses of action to solve the problems relating to the city's equipment capability. One, change the launch site. This would be the safest thing to do. Two, keep the launch position but divide tracking into stages. Within a specified number of minutes after the guided missile lifted off, the survey station at the test city would turn off its machine and let the radar station in another region keep track of it. There was confidence that they could keep the target on track for x minutes.

Pan Peitai adjusted his spectacles unconsciously. One of the first students to graduate from Harbin Military Engineering University, Pan Peitai realized that his colleagues' suggestions were in line with scientific principles and accorded with the premier's instruction that our actions be "safe and reliable and that we must not run any risk at all." Nevertheless, there was a voice deep down inside him which said, "Come on, this is our first intercontinental missile test. Whatever we do now will set a precedent. If we do what they say, we could forget about launching this high trajectory rocket. The function of the test city, which the state spent a huge sum of money to build, will be severely limited." What agonized him was the realization that the experts' proposals were solidly based on the test city's actual capabilities. He should defer to science. But he was not ready to give up: he wanted to

take a chance. At a previous joint conference, therefore, he suggested, "It is our job to fire the rocket. Surveying, too, is best done by us alone, instead of being chopped up midway. I propose that the design people modify the trajectory within permitted limits. I would also like to ask the departments concerned and the air force to cooperate with us to improve our radar survey system."

Because of his insistence and that of the test city's leadership, the higher authorities approved his suggestion. A considerable amount of time elapsed, during which the radar equipment was improved with the air force's help. Still it was not good enough. So at this meeting he had no reason to insist on his own idea.

Comrade Qian Xuesen made the final decision, "The launch site will not be moved. Instead, tracking will be done in sequence, with the changeover taking place after a specified number of seconds."

A depressed Pan Peitai returned to the test city. An ordinarily agreeable type, why was he so stubborn this time? He was bewildered himself. In the few days before the launch, they succeeded in determining the safety coefficient at x seconds from repeated changeover tests. That revived his tenacious idea. With the permission of his direct supervisor, he asked Beijing not to restrict their tracking time as long as they stayed within the framework of the changeover plan. He promised that they would do their best. If they lost their target, they would change over within the safety coefficient time.

Beijing approved the test city's request. But Pan Peitai was risking the failure of China's first intercontinental guided missile.

The rocket roared magnificently. Flames shot out of the diversion notch at its tail, reducing all the shrubs on the mountain to ashes. In the blazing fire, the crystallization of China's scientific achievements gradually soared into space. But the outcome remained up in the air.

Pan Peitai and the acting deputy chief of staff stood in front of an instrument panel in the command and control center, watching with baited breath the white indicator light. If the various tracking stations kept the target on course, the white light would light up. If the target disappeared from the radar screen of any one station, a red light would appear and trigger off an alarm. The astronomical clock ticked away the time, one micro-second after another. The critical point was approaching. Pan Peitai's heart was at his throat. Ah! The highest angle of elevation was passed: tracking had been a total success. Pan Peitai did not smile. Instead of jubilantly discussing the exploit, he just got up and left the control center quietly. He wanted to sleep.

Subsequently China carried out several successful long-range missile tests. That solemn moment had come.

In late November 1979, all units in the guided missile test city received an order for rigorous training. Later Commander Qiao led several valiant

technical leaders in a close inspection of all regimental stations within an radius of several hundred kilometers. For over a month they worked nonstop. Each and every problem raised by the units was taken care of. Veteran soldiers realized that an extraordinary mission was in the works.

New Year's Day, 1980, had just passed. Qiao inspected the last survey station as planned and soon left for the capital. He had looked forward to that moment for 21 long years.

Beijing Jingxi Guest House was under tight security. Apart from military and political leaders from relevant units under the National Defense Science and Technology Commission, other conference attendants staying there included delegates from the Ministry of Electronics Industry, Ministry of Aviation Industry, the navy, air force, State Oceanography Bureau, Central Meteorological Bureau and the Second Artillery Corps. Zhang Aiping, vice premier and chairman of the National Defense Science and Technology Commission, announced at the conference, "The CPC Central Committee has decided to launch a test rocket in the Pacific Ocean at an appropriate time in May. The aim is to test the various functions of long-range rockets. The test will be made known to the world at a right time beforehand."

When that rare water column shot up in the center of that part of the ocean guarded by China's ocean-going task force, planes and ships had already been despatched to await orders by every nation on the Pacific coast which had the capability to do so. In an instant they all came swarming. U.S. and Soviet fleet and reconnaissance planes were the first to arrive at the scene. For a few brief moments the water column became a treasure the world had seldom seen. It was as if a seaborne international victory celebration was in progress with its center at the Chinese fleet.

But at this very moment, unknown to the world, China's rocket experts were racking their brains over exploration in another field..

The Smile of the Microcosmic World

Success and failure treat every nation fairly. China naturally is no exception. As the Chinese people aspired to enter even more novel rocketry territory after several successful tests, a new rocket suddenly drifted off its orbit after entering space. Without waiting for instructions from the ground, the automatic control system on board ignited the rocket on its own. The sound of explosion in the air broke the hearts of rocket design experts. This was not the first time a rocket exploded in space.

The rocket resembles a microcosmic world. Closely packed inside it are myriad parts and components, like single cells. Where did the cause of the disease lie? We cannot diagnose a rocket the way doctors do a patient. Nor can we find out the truth with the aid of a "black box," as in a plane accident. The only thing available for analysis is data recorded by equipment on the ground. But then making sense of the data is as difficult as decoding hieroglyphics.

After the taps, the tens of thousands of lights at the guided missile test city gradually went out. Darkness closed in. A few flickering lights could

still be seen in the reception room not far from the launch site, where experts from the test squadron of the Ministry of Aeronautics were discussing and analyzing the cause of the failure.

The headquarters building was pitch-dark but for a pale yellow everlasting light at the sentry post. Only engineer Li Yongxian's [2621 3057 6343] office was brightly lit. He was leaning against his desk, staring blankly at the ground data and the broken orbit. His alma mater -- Zhejiang University by the edge of Xizi Lake -- had a solid domestic reputation in physics and quantum mechanics. From that institution had emerged a host of outstanding nuclear physicists. He himself had benefited tremendously from the instruction of fine teachers and was confident of his own expertise. Now he realized that in the vast universe of knowledge, what he knew was ridiculously minuscule. Although he had been thinking long and hard for so many days, he still could not figure out the problem. He slapped hard on the desk, turned around and got up. In the dim light he saw a rising fog gradually envelope the foothill and soon the entire mountain. He had the feeling of being covered by mist and cloud together with the building and drifting away. In his drowsiness, he saw the rocket's parts and components parade in front of him. He knew them better than his own fingers. Invisible parts suddenly became tangible objects in his mind. They seemed to be moving around in space. He quietly went over the launching procedure. First stage ignition. Turn off the engine. Before the second stage ignition occurred, the rocket left its orbit. Sound of explosion. -- That must be it, that must be the troublemaker.

All night he remained highly excited. Even when he dozed off occasionally, the extraordinary sound kept whispering in his ears. At daybreak, he jumped out of bed, straightened out his train of thought a little and convinced himself his judgment was correct. Then he immediately contacted experts from the Ministry of Astronautics and called for a technical analysis meeting.

From the perspective of his own specialty, each expert queried the validity of his analysis. He answered each and every one of their questions. The experts still failed to reach a consensus. This, after all, was purely an exercise in scientific analysis. Only through tests could they confirm Li Yongxian's suspicions or discovery.

The ailing "organ" (let us call it that) which Li Yongxian identified was microcosmic, accounting for several hundredths of 1 percent of the entire rocket. On the other hand, it was extremely critical and sophisticated, so much so that an entire factory employing over 1,000 people was devoted to servicing it. Results of the tests in Beijing confirmed Li Yongxian's analysis and won him much respect among his colleagues in the test city.

Amid bitterly cold weather, the improved guided missile entered the test plant. Since this type of rocket using composite fuels must be tested when loaded with fuels, it posed an additional hazard. The plant must be designed for temperature consistency and to withstand explosions.

Learning from their failure, they made the test extremely stringent. The group responsible for level testing manned the various positions with their

best technicians. A young female technician was so desperate over her failure to identify the exact location of the mechanical failure that she cried. Technician Guo Ziheng [6753 1311 5899] had been running a fever and was hospitalized. But neither his expertise nor his position could be replaced.

A highly embarrassed deputy leader Dong [5516] sought out the doctor and asked him whether Guo Ziheng could be discharged. "He regained consciousness a moment ago," the doctor said and then led him into the ward.

A saline solution bottle hung high at bedside. Guo Ziheng was lying in bed, one of his arms strapped.

"Is the deputy station master here?"

"Feeling better now?"

"Much better. Have a seat."

Dong sat down by the bed and put down the fruit he had brought with him. His heart was heavy: how could he have the nerve to broach the subject?

Drops of saline solution fell down the infusion tube, one after another. The ward was very quiet.

"Deputy station master, did you come to see me?"

"Who else?" They laughed at this redundant question.

"Nobody is replacing me?"

"Cannot be replaced." Guo Ziheng called the nurse and asked her to remove the syringe needle. Then he followed Dong back to the test plant.

The level test went off smoothly. When the rocket was about to undergo a vertical test prior to being launched, they discovered an unanticipated hitch: the electric cartridge igniter must be replaced. This meant coming into contact with an active time bomb with the force equivalent to that of a strategic nuclear weapon.

Who was going to carry out this replacement mission?

A soldier emerged from the 100-member technical company. Unfortunately we do not remember his name now, except that he was surnamed Liu and had reliable expertise. At the company's request, the command center sent a driver to assist Liu in his maneuver.

To make absolutely sure that no accident would occur, top leaders of the command and control center ordered all ground personnel of the launch site to evacuate to a safe area.

In an instant the site became unusually quiet. The driver of the elevated platform operating vehicle believed that if an embroidery needle fell on the site's cement floor then, it would be audible. Liu later told his comrades-in-arms, "I was very brave to begin with. After everybody was evacuated, I suddenly felt very lonely. Below the tall missile were only me and the driver. I climbed onto the work platform. When I was slowly lifted by the hanging arm to get near the missile, my legs were a little tremulous. Perhaps even my bones will be burned to ashes, I thought. Then I suddenly spotted a

person not too far away: the company leader has not evacuated! I became much more relaxed instantly. Damn it! Was there not a beacon tower at the mountain top over there? Countless people must have been killed on this spot in wars in ancient times. I chided myself, 'You spineless jellyfish!'

China successfully launched its new rocket, but the world hardly noticed. Only some time later when we fired a real missile from a submarine that we caused a sensation world wide. But those soldiers who threw personal safety to the wind will not be known to the world or even by their fellow countrymen whom they served. Of course, their personal lives remain even more of a mystery.

The Moon on the 15th

Had Sun Zhaoqin [1327 0664 0530] received the telegram? Where was he?

The rocket was about to be launched. This was the long-range high trajectory test on which Pan Peitai had labored long and hard. All program control personnel and radar and optical tracking stations had received the strictest operating commands. They could not afford to make the most minor of mistakes. In the basement at the command center, Sun Zhaoqin was standing in front of several pieces of function recording equipment, totally absorbed in monitoring their operations.

Over at the launch site, the long-range missile was so tall that it towered into the clouds. A number of filling vehicles were quietly feeding fuels into the fuel storage tank. Li Jingli [2621 0079 0448], a Beijing-born soldier, has been working nonstop for 3 hours. Since the liquid fuel was highly toxic, the platoon leader had repeatedly asked that he be relieved, but he would not hear of it. Suddenly he started vomiting. An ambulance at once raced to the site, its siren at full blast, and took him away. They stopped his vomiting. When he woke up, he loudly ordered, "Take me back to the site at once. Do you hear? I cannot let those novices meddle with the thing. When the right amount of pressure is not applied and an accident happens, who will be responsible?"

The doctor said calmly, "Without you, the rocket can still go up into space. Relax and get well."

"Send me back. I am leaving tomorrow. This is my last filling mission. For the sake of our rocket." His speech was incoherent and his eyes were as tame as those of a fawn.

But the ambulance did take him back. He immediately dashed out like a tiger, grabbed a gas mask and put it on and relieved the other filling operator. He worked from 3 am to 11 pm the next evening, when work was completed. Only then did he remove his gas mask, where new vomit had been accumulating: he had thrown up his entire meal. He put up with it for all those hours for fear of being returned to the hospital.

In the dim light of night, a fellow townsman from Beijing named Ma Wen Yue [7456 2429 6460] and a soldier from Chengde called Li Dongzhi [2621 2639 1807]

came up to relieve him, guns in hand. "Take it easy, Jingli. Today the two of us will keep your rocket company."

The first rays of dawn colored the eastern sky. Ma Wenyue and Li Dongzhi went off duty and removed their collar badges. Then they walked toward the car which had left the group.

The guided missile was dissembled for hoisting. Squad leader Xian-born Li Yanping [2621 1693 1627], who had already removed his badge, could not set his mind at rest. He said to the company leader, "I am an old hand at this. Let me make sure everything is OK." He told the company leader that a novice would feel dizzy when he was hoisted up a 70-meter high tower crane. Even a veteran would sometimes unavoidably fail to see properly. Li Yanping was the company leader's most trusted operator. "Go ahead," the leader said.

Experts from the Ministry of Astronautics who were present watched the moving crane with admiration. They sighed, "What an adorable generation!"

Goodbye, company leader! Goodbye, guided missile test city! As raging flames spurted out from the rocket, a row of soldiers, wearing neither badges nor insignias, gave it a last military salute.

The ancients described this place as beyond the Great Wall. Li Taibai once wandered here and composed a poem titled "Ode on Journeying Beyond the Great Wall," in which he said, "The cold clouds protect the accumulated snow. The sword emerges from Heavenly Gate." It was not unusual for this place to snow in May. In winter when it could be as cold as -25 to -39 degrees, the boiler room needed an even more constant supply of coal. A row of uneven footprints could be seen in the snow. They were a woman's footprints, now deep, now shallow. You could hear the snoring of a child. There were two people in the boiler room, a mother and a child of the guided missile test city sleeping on his back.

Whenever the guided missile test city fired a rocket, the playground of "Long March School" located at the heart of the city would be crowded with children, ranging in age from 9 to 17. They might be bundled up in heavy coats or cotton clothing to protect them from the cold wind. Quietly they waited for the arrival of that great moment, accompanied by neither mothers nor fathers. Only a daily living teacher could be found looking after the youngest children in one corner.

Please understand the denizens of the guided missile test city. Parents had no choice but to let their beloved daughters leave them when they reached nine and enter the "Long March School," a boarding institution. After grade three, the children left their parents to embark on life's "long march" (What a meaningful name for a school) until they entered college or society. During all these years they could see their parents only once a week. When they missed them, they learned to call them on the phone.

An Indomitable Star

The party committee conference had ended. Political Commissar Liu, one of the top leaders in the test city, emerged from the building and walked home in his big, firm and steady strides. A moment ago at the meeting he exuded an air of power and control. Now, that was gradually wearing off. Had he not been wearing his woolen uniform, one could not tell he was a military leader and might assume that he was a mild-mannered logistics functionary or an amiable engineer.

Only when Mrs Liu slowly groped her way back to the TV set in front of the table could one discover that her large eyes were sightless.

"I graduated from the Chinese Department of Beijing University in 1963 and was assigned to the Foreign Literary Commission in Beijing. Since old Liu felt very lonely staying here all by himself, I asked to be transferred back to his side in 1966. Later my eyesight failed. Naturally it was very painful for me. He also got very worried. So I sought treatment in Beijing and entered Hospital 301. But there was nobody to take care of me there. How can a half-blind person look after herself? Since Old Liu could not stay with me, not to mention the children, I returned to Tianjin for treatment where there was at least somebody home. Actually I worked for the military for only 12 years. When I became basically blind in 1978, I asked to retire. It is a very painful thing to retire when you are only in your 40's."

The wife of Deputy Commander Jiang once gave me an opportunity to admire an elegant painting by her father-in-law. Beside the tall, straight and dark green bamboo, the old man had written a verse: "I would rather have my bamboo which stays green through all four seasons than peach- and plum-blossoms which flower only in spring."

Thus did this old man who was a headmaster in the liberated area during the War of Resistance against Japan admonish his son with words distilled from the experience of an 80-year-old. Here we can detect the Chinese people's consciousness of the righteousness of a cause, a spirit passed on from generation to generation.

The CPC Central Committee had a deep understanding of the guided missile test city.

In the early winter of 1984, leading comrades on the Central Committee, including Yang Shangkun [2799 1424 0981], Wang Zhen [3769 7201], Yu Qiuli [0151 4428 6849], Yang Dezhi [2799 1779 1807] and Hu Qili [5170 0796 4539] turned up at the launch site in the test city.

The north wind was piercingly cold. The leaders wore military heavy coats and stayed outdoors with the rank and file. Vice Chairman Yang Shangkun said humorously, "Since the weather is so cold, the people will not like it if we talk too long." Wang Zhen said loudly and clearly, "Comrades, what kind of place is this? A place of hardship, but also a science organization at the cutting edge and an important base for national defense. Comrades' past efforts have benefited the nation, benefited the people."

On many an occasion these anonymous heroes have confronted death face to face and did not flinch. At that point, however, their eyes were filled with tears. Their names were not even known to the public. But the Central Committee remembered them. Comrade Zhang Aiping, in particular, who for half his lifetime went through thick and thin together with the national defense science and technology personnel, always had them on his mind. When he heard that the radar survey station had built a summer house on the barren hill which he had afforested, he joyously copied the couplet composed by a technician for the summer house:

"As I climb the green mountains and survey the open country, I recall nostalgically the ancestors' heroic exploits.

As I stand at the summer house and look at the blue sky, I am pleased to see a huge dragon dancing in the firmament."

As China opens its door to the world and puts rocket technology to peaceful use, the missile test city's iron curtain has also been drawn back.

Epilogue

High-ranking military leaders from various test bases under the National Defense Science, Technology, and Industry Commission congregated at a guesthouse in Beijing in the early spring of 1985. Military and political members from the nuclear test city, spaceflight city, satellite city, oceangoing test task force, conventional weapons test city and guided missile test city all came as instructed.

This was an extraordinary meeting for the generals, marking another milestone in the march by this particular arm of the People's Liberation Army toward modernization.

A thick and luxurious crimson carpet extended from the hallway into the conference room. Orchids greeted the guests with whiffs of delicate fragrance. The generals sat ramrod straight in front of the long table covered with a piece of dark green velvet. Sitting upright at the head of the table was Ding Henggao [0002 5899 7559], the new chairman of the National Defense Science, Technology, and Industry Commission. With his dignified appearance, Ding Henggao had the manner of a scholar in addition to his military air. He studied in the Soviet Union in the 1950's and was in his 50's that year. Beside him was the newly appointed political commissar, Wu Shaozu [0124 4801 4371], who became vice chairman of the National Defense Science, Technology, and Industry Commission at 43 and has deeply impressed his subordinates with his quick, decisive way of doing things, mental agility and modern ideas. He graduated from Qinghua University in the 1960's. At 45, he is among the youngest leaders of the same rank in the Chinese military today.

The absolutely authoritative orders of the Military Commission reverberated in the conference room, sending every word, every sentence into the participants' ears. These orders were "once in a lifetime" for every general. They

signified the end of half a lifetime of military life. Despite repeated discussions beforehand between the new chairman and political commissar and the veterans, the latter still felt shaken when the orders were announced.

Qiao, the guided missile test city's veteran commander, stood up. He wanted to say a few words of farewell but at that point tears welled up in his eyes. Yes, how can anyone not feel a stab of pain when emotional ties with the soldiers forged over a period of several decades must suddenly be severed? It is like being separated from one's children. "A soldier's bounden duty is to obey orders." And veterans embody that saying particularly well. Raising his head now covered with silvery hair, he said, "Whatever the Military Commission orders, I will obey without demur. As far as personal feelings are concerned, even if living is tougher at the base, I will still find it difficult to leave. Well, the time has come to hand over power to the young people. This is what the times require. From now on, I will hand over the commander's authority to Xiao Yang. I believe he will achieve something."

"Xiao Yang" was none other than the leader of the technical office mentioned above. He became deputy commander a year before. When Qiao announced the transfer of power to Yang, the former was 63, the latter, 47. Yang is an outstanding graduate of the Beijing Aeronautical Engineering College. At 1.8 meters, he is as tall as Qiao and thin, with eyes that sparkle with wisdom. A combination of professional training and military quality has made him a cool-headed, indomitable introvert. He is modest but does not lack drive. He has a cold exterior but is actually emotional. He is receptive to subordinates' opinions but has his own judgment.

A new generation has drawn open the curtain of history, imparting to history its own characteristics.

The guided missile test city's new leadership has drawn up an ambitious plan to step up its modernization in accordance with the scientific and technological standards of the late 1980's. Looking far into the future, they are watching very closely the international market for commercial satellites.

A decade ago, Comrade Qian Xuesen visited the test city and looked up the relevant technical experts, advising them earnestly, "We must be more far-sighted. This base is ideally located geographically. In the future when the government has more funds, the base should be prepared to launch polar satellites that fly over the North and South Poles, solar synchronous satellites and satellites that study nature. The survey system and communications system here will also be linked up with those elsewhere in the nation to form a space survey network to track satellites and spacecraft. This place should contribute tremendously to China's space program."

Rocket City, August 1985

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MILITARY AND PUBLIC SECURITY AFFAIRS

SHAANXI, ORDNANCE MINISTRY TO INITIATE REFORMS

HK310159 Xian Shaanxi Provincial Service in Mandarin 0030 GMT 31 Mar 86

[Text] The Shaanxi Provincial Government and the Ministry of Ordnance Industry recently decided after consultation to reform the management structure of the provincial ordnance industry bureau, and to put into effect cooperation between the ministry and the province to jointly develop serial production of civilian products and speed up the transfer of defense industry technology to civilian use.

The newly-established provincial ordnance industry administrative bureau, set up after the reform, is both an agency of the ministry in Shaanxi and also a specialized administrative department of the province. Its tasks are, on behalf of the ministry and the province, to directly lead and administer the ministry's enterprises in Shaanxi and help the ministry in managing its scientific research units, schools, and other undertakings in the province. At the same time, the ministry will institute separate listings in its internal planning and proportional division of finances for its subordinate enterprises in Shaanxi in a way which combines duties, powers, and interests.

At present the provincial planning and economic commissions, finance and labor and personnel departments, and the organization department of the provincial CPC Committee have started to take over the relevant professional work.

The provincial CPC Committee and the Ministry of Ordnance Industry have also decided to establish pilot projects in cooperation between the ministry and the province, so as to develop lateral economic and technical ties in producing ordnance and civilian products, with the focus on doing a good job in developing civilian products and transferring defense industry technology to civilian use. A leadership group for cooperation between the ministry and the province was recently set up. A cooperation agreement is about to be initiated.

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MILITARY AND PUBLIC SECURITY AFFAIRS

TRAINING COURSE FOR DEMOBILIZED ARMY CADRES

Hk290621 Lanzhou Gansu Provincial Service in Mandarin 1100 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] In 1985 professional training course for army cadres transferred to civilian work in the province formally opened this morning. Some 500 students of 11 training centers, including the party school of the provincial CPC Committee, Lanzhou University, and the Political and Legal College, attended the opening ceremony.

Over recent years, the work of professional training of army cadres transferred to civilian work in our province has been constantly developed and perfected. Certain achievements have been scored. In accordance with the central regulations on receiving training before taking up a post and with the principle of giving such training as is desired or needed by army cadres transferred to civilian work, the provincial work group for resettling army cadres transferred to civilian work organized 26 training courses throughout the province last year. It conducted professional training for 1,070 cadres transferred to civilian work, accounting for over 93 percent of the cadres to be trained.

In accordance with the quality and tasks of different trades, all temporary training centers have formulated feasible plans for teaching and organized various subjects, including philosophy, political economy, and modern science and technology. After 4 months' professional training, those who pass in the examinations will be issued graduation certificates. [words indistinct]

On behalf of the provincial CPC Committee and provincial government, Liu Bing, deputy secretary of the provincial CPC Committee, spoke, saying: The problem is not that there is an excessive number of cadres but that they are mainly unsuitable for civilian work. The professional training of army cadres transferred to civilian work, basically speaking, is aimed at solving the problem of being unsuitable for civilian work. This is also a requirement and measure for realizing the four modernizations. Modern science, technology, and management demand that cadres at all levels have not only good political quality and theoretical level but also a certain degree of scientific and cultural knowledge, professional level, and leadership method. We must grasp the work of training of army cadres transferred to civilian work as an aspect of work.

Attending the opening ceremony were Hou Zongbin, vice governor; Pei Jiuzhou, deputy political commissar of the Lanzhou Military Region; and (He Zhiying), deputy commander of Gansu Military District.

MILITARY AND PUBLIC SECURITY AFFAIRS

BRIEFS

MISSILE CADRES COMMENDED--According to a JIEFANGJUN BAO report, Deng Xiaoping, chairman of the Central Military Commission, has issued an order conferring first-class merit citations to deputy division command cadres (Jiang Shaohua) and (Pei Jingfeng), who took charge of the experimental production of a certain type of missile. The Central Military Commission has issued an order commending all those who took part in the experiment. A grand commendation ceremony was held in Beijing on 23 January. Leading comrades (Li Xibo) and (Liu Lifeng), respectively commander and political commissar of the Second Artillery Corps, placed gleaming medals on the chests of the 29 engineers. In its citation order, the Central Military Commission expressed the hope that the Second Artillery Corps would try even harder and make greater contributions to the modernization of national defense.

[Text] [Beijing Domestic Service in Mandarin 2230 GMT 23 Jan 86 OW] /9738

DEMOBILIZED CADRES' STUDY COURSE--The first Chengdu area study course to be run for cadres of Chengdu Military Region who are being transferred to Sichuan Province held its opening ceremony yesterday. Some 500 cadres are participating. Training courses also started at five other points in the province yesterday. The opening ceremony in Chengdu was attended by responsible comrades of the province and city, Chengdu Military Region, and large PLA units stationed in Chengdu City including Yang Rudai, Fu Guanyou, Wan Haifeng, Gu Jinchí, Qiao Zhimin, Li Shuo, and (Shao Weinong). [Excerpt] [Chengdu Sichuan Provincial Service in Mandarin 0030 GMT 2 Apr 86 HK] /9738

CSO: 4005/576

BA YI RADIO, OTHER MEDIA

INVITATION TO JAPANESE CROWN PRINCE CRITICIZED

OW081446 (Clandestine) Ba Yi Radio in Mandarin to China 1215 GMT 7 Apr 86

[Text] The news that Japanese Emperor Hirohito's crown prince will come to China for a visit at the invitation of China's leaders has triggered off indignation among the people. The army men are especially indignant. Quite a few commanders and fighters have furiously pondered over this news. Numerous veteran fighters in our Army who fought bloody battles with Japanese devils cannot help but look at the scars on their bodies and burn with wrath.

If we say that China has developed trade and technical cooperation with Japan in the past few years for the four modernizations, can we say the invitation to the crown prince of Hirohito, a special-class war criminal, is also aimed at promoting the four modernizations? It goes without saying that it was precisely when this Japanese Emperor Hirohito indulged in his fond dream of the Greater East Asia Co-prosperity Sphere that Japan invaded our country. Even the concoction of a Manchuria in Northeast China was Hirohito's proud masterpiece. The policy of "burn all, kill all, loot all" pursued by the Japanese aggressors in our country was personally formulated by Hirohito. After the Japanese Army butchered our 300,000 compatriots in Nanjing, Hirohito celebrated the occasion for 3 days in front of the supreme headquarters in his royal palace.

The commander in chief of the Japanese Army stationed in Northeast China organized bacteriological warfare unit 731 at a place south of Harbin. This unit used Chinese people, including Chinese children, as guinea pigs. During the years of Japanese invasion of China, wherever the Japanese Army went it burned, killed, and looted, stopping at nothing. Countless numbers of our sister compatriots were raped and killed by Japanese beasts. This huge debt of blood and national hatred can never be forgotten by our army men and people.

However, leaders of our country went so far as to invite this [word indistinct] who massacred our compatriots, occupied our hills and rivers, and attempted to enslave our Chinese nation to visit China. Where is our national dignity? Where is our national integrity? Not long ago,

Zhou Erfu was severely punished for losing national dignity and visiting the Yasukuni Shrine, a place for souls of Japanese war criminals. Yet today the successor to Hirohito, a living special-class war criminal, is invited to visit China. Those who extended the invitation went even farther than Zhou Erfu, who lost his national dignity.

Forty-six years ago, Manchuria's puppet premier Fu Yi, in Chinese dress, presented himself before Japanese Emperor Hirohito in Tokyo. Today, after 46 years, is the invitation to the Japanese crown prince to visit China regarded as a return visit? Actually, inviting the Japanese crown prince to visit China means adding a new chapter to the history of the Chinese nation's disgrace.

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TAIWAN

U.S. SENATOR URGES LIFTING OF MARTIAL LAW

OW041230 Taipei International Service in English 0200 GMT 4 Apr 86

[Station commentary]

[Text] U.S. Senator Alan Cranston has just concluded a 2-day visit to the Republic of China [ROC]. He left behind the impression that he is a friend worthy of trust. The senator from California is no stranger to the people of Free China. He is the principal architect of Taiwan Relations Act that obligates the United States to sell Taipei sufficient arms for self-defense.

During his visit in Taipei, Cranston reaffirmed the U.S. commitment to the ROC, saying that maintaining the peace, prosperity, and welfare of the people in Taiwan is essential, and serves the interests of all the Chinese people on both sides of the Taiwan Strait. The Senate minority whip minced no words in his praise for the ROC.

Speaking at a press conference, he said he was deeply impressed by the economic prosperity in Taiwan and by the steps that have been taken to ensure the broadest possible participation by the people on the island in that prosperity. The senator also said that he was delighted to see that there is more and more participation by the so-called native Taiwanese in the government through election process as well as appointments. Therefore, Cranston dismissed as sheer nonsense the attempt to liken the ROC to the Philippines prior to the ouster of Marcos. Noting that the situation of the two countries is totally different, Cranston said the ROC is not only prosperous and capitalized by an equitable distribution of wealth, its government also enjoys broad popular support.

Despite his positive assessment of the ROC, however, Senator Cranston also raised two points which seemed to suggest that there is still room for improvement in the ROC's political democratization. In a speech at the Tamkang University, he urged the ROC Government to immediately lift the martial law and permit the emergence of genuine opposition parties. His argument is that genuine democratic rule is the best weapon to fight communism. There is no question that the argument is a sound one. However, one cannot help pointing out that his two suggestions stemmed from

misunderstanding. The so-called martial law, as it is applied in Taiwan, is a misnomer. It is nothing but a special precaution against communist subversion and does not, in any way, curb the legitimate rights of the people. This has been borne out by a survey which showed that over 70 percent of the people were not even aware of its existence.

After the question of opposition parties, the ROC Government has to take into consideration the fact that the nation is still in a state of war. Too many political parties can only have an adverse effect on the nation's stability on which its security and prosperity rest. Furthermore, there is no lack of opposition in Taiwan. Dissidents are not barred from elections and their views were fully aired in their campaign forums and a large number of opposition publications.

We appreciate U.S. Senator Cranston's frank suggestions, believing that they were made out of sincerity. Nonetheless, we have to say that adoption of his suggestions will have to wait until China is reunified under the banner of the Three Principles of the People.

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CSO: 4000/219

28 April 1986

TAIWAN

BRIEFS

COUNTRY'S NAME NOT TO CHANGE--Taipei, 7 Apr (CNA)--It is not only against the basic national policy of the Republic of China [ROC] but also falls into the trap set by the Chinese Communists if the ROC should participate in the international community under a new name, said the Executive Yuan. In a written reply to an interpellation by Legislator Chiang Peng-chien, the Yuan said that the Chinese Communists have tried to downgrade the status of the Republic of China to a local government by promoting such schemes as "one country, two systems," and "Hong Kong Model" in recent years. Facing the Chinese Communist tactics to isolate the Republic of China in the international community, the ROC is trying to strengthen existing relations with friendly nations and to promote substantive relations with countries which do not at the present time have diplomatic ties with the ROC. At the present time, the Yuan said, the Republic of China keeps 86 embassies, consulates and agricultural organizations in free countries. And 21 nations which do not have diplomatic relations with the ROC also have set up 28 representative offices in the ROC. Currently, the Yuan said that the ROC has participated in 664 private international organizations. [Text] [Taipei CNA in English 1041 GMT 7 Apr 86] /9604

CSO: 4000/219

HONG KONG

UNCERTAIN FUTURE FOR POLITICAL PARTIES IN HONG KONG

Hong Kong PAI SHING SEMI-MONTHLY in Chinese No 114, 16 Feb 86 pp 6-7

[Article by Zhang Jiefeng [1728 4814 7685]: "The Formation of Political Parties in Hong Kong Faces Many Barriers"]

[Text] Li Pengfei Beats a Hasty Retreat; Li Zhuming Can't Go It Alone

Many participants in public affairs and political commentators have strongly advocated that some legislative councillors be directly elected in 1988. And regardless of whether people support or oppose direct elections, they agree that direct elections will expedite the emergence of political parties. But 1986 has come and yet there is still not a single political party in Hong Kong with a clear-cut platform. Even Legislative Councillor Li Pengfei [2621 7720 7378], who has consistently declared his intention to form a political party, has recently become disillusioned and give up the idea.

The absence of political parties does not bode well for direct elections in 1988. Yet it may be that people show no enthusiasm for forming parties because they are already pessimistic about the prospects for direct elections.

Central to Li Pengfei's party plan was his estimate of the chances of winning political power. After careful analysis, however, he came to one conclusion: only China can decide how the place is to be governed in the future. Herein lies his decision not to go ahead and form a political party. He even admitted that at first he held the illusion that Hong Kong people would be allowed to run Hong Kong. That illusion has now been shattered.

Li Pengfei is the "standard bearer" of the "intellectual party," an organization in the making for some time by a group of legislative councillors and professionals. Now that he has called it quits, is the party stillborn? Li Pengfei's partner, Liang Shuyi [2733 3219 1837], said that she agreed with his conclusion that conditions are not ripe for political parties for the time being. She noted that friends who had considered with her and Li Pengfei the possibility of forming a political party would not form any party involving her at the moment. Of course she did not rule out the possibility that some friends may go ahead on their own and do just that. But the resultant organization will not be the "intellectual party" which had been gathering together to study political party formation for the past 2 years.

Liang Shuyi's about-face is less dramatic than Li Pengfei's. She said that all along they were only looking into the feasibility of forming a party. Never was there a decision taken explicitly in favor of such a move. She said the so-called platform of the "intellectual party" is merely the preliminary draft of a position paper, a basis for discussion to find out whether members have a common position on issues. It is not a political platform.

It is obvious that Li Pengfei and Liang Shuyi have been lying low politically in recent months. In contrast, Li Zhuming [2621 2691 6900], one of their associates, has been much more active and has not shown the slightest sign of retreating. He said he still wants to form a political party, but not in the foreseeable future. He pointed out that it is not easy to find a group of friends with completely identical ideals and goals. And only people who have such similarities can join together in a party. He does not approve of the practice of the Progressive Association which does not have a platform and allows its members to adopt different positions. For this reason, his party, if it does materialize, will be a long time coming.

"Intellectual Party" Too Sensitive; Progressive Association Still Low-Key

Before making a move, Li Pengfei took a "long hard look" at the political situation and was able to beat a retreat from his earlier plan to establish a political party. As for political organizations already in existence, have they been adversely affected by the unfavorable political situation? According to Pu Bingrong [3184 3521 2837], secretary of the Progressive Association's executive committee, since it was never the association's aim to be a "ruling party," its future political participation can take a variety of forms, depending on the situation and regardless of the type of political system then in existence and whether or not there will be direct elections. Whatever the circumstances, the group's *raison d'être* will not be affected.

About the association's functions, Pu Bingrong noted that it seeks to provide a forum transcending classes where people from all walks of life can come together in a joint effort to influence policies, on the one hand, and serve as a training ground for civic-minded and politically conscious leaders, on the other. Uniting these two functions is one single aim: help Hong Kong make a successful transition. As for the means to the end, they have yet to be worked out over time. The Progressive Association still lacks a political platform. What it has is a host of subcommittees each with its specific jurisdiction, such as education, legal system, finance and economic policy.

On the basis of the above analysis, Pu Bingrong characterizes the Progressive Association as a more political organization than pressure groups. In his words, it belongs to "the second type of organization." He believes that it is premature to form political parties in Hong Kong at the moment, whereas the formation of the "second type of organization" is more suited to Hong Kong's current political system and the people's level of consciousness. Whether or not "second type organizations" will evolve into political parties depends on how the situation unfolds. In any case, Pu Bingrong thinks that we should not jump to conclusion by assuming that democracy is doomed and give up too quickly.

It is clear that the Progressive Association, whose leader Tan Huizhu [6223 1920 3796], is a legislative councillor, has been much lower-key than Li Pengfei's "intellectual party." From the beginning, Tan Huizhu has never admitted that her group is a political party. Nor does it have a plan to "vie for political power." Apparently her approach has proved more acceptable to China. Although China has never openly shown intolerance for political parties in Hong Kong, a number of leftists have privately criticized vested interests dependent on British influence for trying to protect their power and influence by forming political parties. Needless to say, the so-called "vested interests" refer to members of the Legislative Council. It can thus be seen that China is very sensitive to the political activities of people with close ties to Britain. Li Pengfei claimed that China has never put pressure on him. But it is also true that China has not singled him out for preferential treatment. In contrast, not only was Tan Huizhu appointed a member of the drafting committee, but the basic law advisory committee has 17-18 Progressive Association members, 10 percent of the committee's total membership. Can it be that Tan Huizhu is smart enough not to step on China's toes? After weighing the pros and cons, has China concluded that her "ambition" stays within tolerable bounds and that she qualifies as a "united front" partner? Lu Ping [7627 1627] recently said that political parties are not suitable for Hong Kong since they are not "very useful." This remark can serve as a footnote to Li Pengfei's disillusionment. On the other hand, the field is now wide open to Tan Huizhu who is less interested in forming a party than in setting up an organization with a watered-down political character.

Undoubtedly, China's attitude makes up a big part of the so-called "political situation" which determines the future of political parties here. Vice Chairman Yang Sen [2799 2773] of "Meeting Point" has pointed out that during their successive visits to Hong Kong, both Ji Pengfei [1213 7720 7378] and Lu Ping cautioned against overly rapid political development in Hong Kong. Echoing the Chinese was British Under Foreign Secretary Li Lian Deng who went so far as to suggest that Britain is not responsible for the development of a representative system of government in the colony. All this has indeed created an atmosphere highly discouraging to political participation. Still Yang Sen has not given up hope for the future of political parties. As he sees it, China has made explicit only two positions: one, there can be no independence for Hong Kong; and two, Hong Kong's political system must be in line with the Basic Law. The essence of both positions is an insistence upon Chinese sovereignty and a desire to keep the initiative to influence political development in Hong Kong. Does China frown upon the formation of political parties in Hong Kong? Does it disapprove of direct elections? Yang Sen believes it is too early to tell. He suggests that if party competition does emerge, the leftists can also form parties and enter the race. Given the power of leftist groups here, their party will certainly be a formidable force. Why should China fear and reject political parties?

A Bumpy Road to Democracy

The "Meeting Point," established 4 years ago, is the first of the new political organizations born in response to the call for democratic self-government for Hong Kong. At the beginning, its activities were strictly limited to political commenting. In other words, it was what Pu Bingrong

calls a "second type of organization." However, "Meeting Point" put up members as candidates in the district council elections last March and will do so again in the coming Urban Council elections, thus moving one step away from political commenting toward political participation. Both its organizational history and actual performance suggest that it has great potential to gradually evolve into a political party. Has it been affected by China's recent actions and therefore slackened its pace?

Yang Sen said that no illusion has been shattered because he has always been aware of the many barriers ahead and never had any illusion. Nevertheless, they are still hopeful about the prospects for political participation. They remain convinced of a number of things: 1) China does not want Hong Kong to dissolve into chaos; 2) Because China and Hong Kong have different social systems, it will be difficult for China to send somebody here to run this place. China is aware of that; 3) Intellectuals who grew up in the 1960's and 70's have a sense of belonging to Hong Kong and want to do something for this place. In view of China's recent emphasis on economic development and pragmatism, it will not intervene in Hong Kong excessively. On the other hand, if and when China reverses its policies, the several favorable conditions mentioned above will naturally no longer obtain. Consequently, what Yang Sen refers to as "convictions" rests on a shaky basis.

Yang Sen too admits that democracy in Hong Kong is fraught with uncertainty. Apart from the unpredictability of Chinese politics, Hong Kong people's "mercurial" character is another hidden worry. In their eagerness to adapt to the new situation, will the people of Hong Kong, who have traditionally eschewed politics in favor of making money, lean over backwards to accommodate the wishes of the powers that be? Actually there are already signs that this is happening. Once the Hong Kong people themselves turn their back on principles, political parties will lack popular support even if some individuals are willing to form parties.

In Yang Sen's opinion, people interested in political participation are either progressive or regressive, depending on their intentions. Do they espouse "democracy" as a means to resist the communists? Or do they genuinely want democratic self-government for the people of Hong Kong? If the former is true, China will find them sentimentally unacceptable. Besides, such "resistance" will not succeed, given the magnitude of the forces stacked against it. So one should not be surprised to see these people give up in the face of overwhelming difficulties. The latter, on the other hand, still have a fighting chance because the extent of "self-government" can be negotiated.

What role can Hong Kong people play in "self-government?" Although some people have reached a conclusion--beat a hasty retreat--there are plenty of others who are willing to continue to search for a way. The expression "let Hong Kong people govern Hong Kong" must be more precisely and scientifically defined. It is high time that "political parties" and "political organizations" born of the demand for "self-government" examined their conditions for existence.

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